NO. 17
PEP COMICS
ACTION DETECTIVE ADVENTURE
HERE HE IS FELLOWS, THE HANGMAN!
BOY, IS HE A GREAT GUY! LOOK FOR HIM INSIDE!!
comics' NEWEST SENSATION...
THE HANGMAN

USE THIS COUPON!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE, AND SEND IT TO ME WITH A TWO-CENT STAMP ONLY, TO COVER THE EXACT COST OF MAILING.

Joe Higgins
Room 315
60 Hudson St.
New York City

DEAR JOE:
PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE SHIELD G-MAN CLUB. I AM ENCLOSING THIS ENTIRE COUPON OF PEP COMICS, TOGETHER WITH A 2¢ STAMP, TO HANDLE THE COST OF MAILING MY BADGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____
STREET CITY STATE

AGE_____

CUT ON THIS LINE

Fellers, thanks for the thousands of coupons, asking for membership in my club! So many letters have come in, that I am unable to start the discussion of them in this issue! However, just keep following this page, and you new prospects for membership, send in your coupons today, because the sooner you join, the sooner you'll like it!

All members of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB will receive a beautiful Red, White and Blue membership badge, plus an identification card personally signed by me . . . Joe Higgins, absolutely

FREE!

This is to certify that
JOHN FRAZER
is a member in good standing of the
SHIELD G-MAN CLUB
and is entitled to all privileges pursuant thereof.
JOE HIGGINS (The Shield)

TO become a member of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB, all you have to do, is write your name and address on the coupon above and mail it to me, enclosing a two-cent stamp to cover the cost of mailing . . . "That's all there is, there ain't no more requirements for membership!"

And be sure you keep tuned to this page in every issue of PEP COMICS, because from now on this is the "Shield G-Man Club" page. That means it is your page. Here, I will discuss the purpose of the SHIELD G-MAN CLUB and whatever we are going to do depends on exactly what you want me to do. So, as soon as you get your identification card, if you have any ideas for organizing groups in your own town, or if you have ever had any experience working with the law, send me a line and let me know. Your letter will be discussed right on this page.

FLASHBACK

FLASHBACK is a publication of SPECIAL EDITION REPRINTS/RR #1 BOX #297/EAST MOLINE, ILLINOIS 61244. Editor: Alan L. Light. This is issue number 16, reprinting PEP COMICS #17, from 1941. Originally copyrighted in 1941 by M.L.J. Magazines, Inc. The purpose of FLASHBACK is to provide comic book fans and collectors with quality, inexpensive reprints of rare and expensive original Golden Age comic books. A FREE CATALOG OF PRODUCTS IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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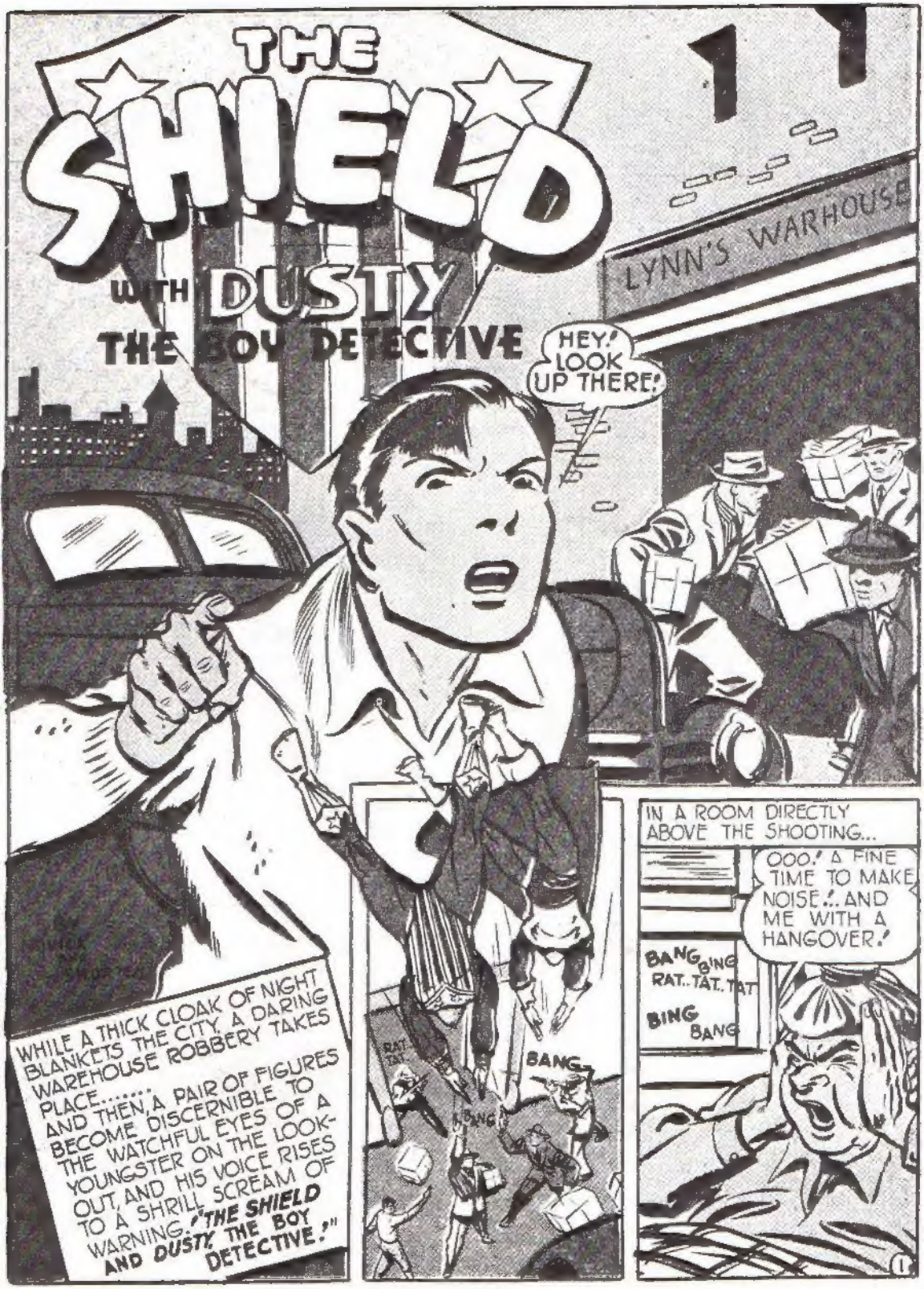

THE SHIELD
WITH DUSTY THE BOY DETECTIVE
1
LYNN'S WARHOUSE
HEY! LOOK UP THERE!
WHILE A THICK CLOAK OF NIGHT BLANKETS THE CITY, A DARING WAREHOUSE ROBBERY TAKES PLACE..... AND THEN, A PAIR OF FIGURES BECOME DISCERNIBLE TO THE WATCHFUL EYES OF A YOUNGSTER ON THE LOOK-OUT, AND HIS VOICE RISES TO A SHRILL SCREAM OF WARNING, "THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE!"
RAT TAT
BANG
BANG
IN A ROOM DIRECTLY ABOVE THE SHOOTING...
OOO! A FINE TIME TO MAKE NOISE!.. AND ME WITH A HANGOVER!
BANG BING RAT..TAT..TAT
BING BANG
1

STOP THAT INFERNAL RACKET! IT ISN'T FOURTH OF JULY YET!
THE SENATOR LOSES HIS FOOTING AND....
OOOO! I'M FALLING! HAAALLP!
SHIELD! UP THERE! HE'S STUCK ON A FLAG-POLE!
CHASE THOSE HOLD-UPS, DUSTY! I'VE GOT TO SAVE THAT FELLOW'S LIFE!
THAT BAKERY MOTORCYCLE! I'LL BORROW IT!
BAKER DONUTS
AND I THINK I'VE GOT AN IDEA HOW! TO LEAVE A TRAIL FOR THE SHIELD!
LIVE AND LEARN! I DIDN'T THINK SINKERS WERE GOOD FOR ANYTHING BUT DUNKING!
BAKERY DONUTS
THE BANDITS SOON REACH THEIR HIDEOUT....

HERE'S YOUR CUT, KID! A LOT EASIER THAN LOOKIN' FER A FIFTEEN DOLLAR A WEEK JOB, HUH?
GEE... MAYBE I SHOULDN'T A DONE IT! THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I....
YA SNIVELLIN' PUNK! THIS'LL LEARN YA NOT TO GO SOFT!
OW!
AND TH' NEXT TIME YA GO YELLA, I'LL...
I AIN'T YELLA, BLINKER! HONEST, I AIN'T!
TH...BOY DETECTIVE!
WELL, WELL! I SEEM TO HAVE GAINED MYSELF A REPUTATION!
SO I GUESS I GOTTA LIVE UP TO IT!
WHERE'D HE COME FROM?
YELLA, AM I? I'LL SHOW 'EM!
BEAT IT! IF DUSTY'S HERE, THE SHIELD'S PROBABLY AROUND HERE TOO!
BOY! I SURE GOT CAUGHT NAPPING THAT TIME BUT THIS GUY WON'T GET AWAY!
OOO! LEGGO MY ARM!

HELLO, DUSTY! CLEVER TRICK LEAVING ME THAT TRAIL OF DOUGHNUTS! WELL...WHAT KIND OF GAME DID YOU BAG?
IT'S THAT KID WHO WAS THEIR LOOKOUT, SHIELD! THE OTHERS GOT AWAY!
LEGGO ME!

HMM! KIND OF YOUNG TO BE IN WITH A MOB LIKE THAT!
BUT HE KNOWS WHO THEY ARE, 'N HE'S GONNA TELL US!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH! THINK I'D SQUEAL ON MY PALS TO ANY COPPERS?
I HATE TO DO THIS TO A YOUNGSTER, BUT I'VE NO CHOICE! I'LL HAVE TO TURN YOU OVER TO THE POLICE!

NEXT DAY....
HERE WE ARE, AT THE COURTHOUSE, JOE!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE SO INTERESTED IN THE YOUNG HOODLUM, JOE!
EE...I SORTA HELPED THE SHIELD NAB HIM, BETTY!

INSIDE....
YES JUDGE, I CAN POSITIVELY IDENTIFY HIM AS ONE OF THE GANG, BRRFF... I..ER..HAD A KIND OF A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF HIM!

HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY, FOR YOURSELF, SLATS GORDON, BEFORE I PASS A SENTENCE ON YOU?
NO! I DON'T WANT NO FAVORS FER MYSELF! JUST DON'T TELL MY MOM WHERE I'M GOIN'! THAT'S ALL I ASK!

DID YOU HEAR THAT, BETTY! THE KID'S MORE WORRIED ABOUT HIS MOTHER THAN HIMSELF!
THERE MUST BE A LOT OF GOOD IN A BOY LIKE THAT! I FEEL SORRY FOR HIM!

YOUR HONOR, I'M JOE HIGGINS, OF THE F.B.I.! I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS YOUNG FELLOW'S ARREST, AND I'D LIKE YOU TO PAROLE HIM IN MY CUSTODY!
HMM!..IT'S A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY YOU'RE TAKING ON!

BUT SINCE THIS IS HIS FIRST OFFENSE, I'LL GRANT THE REQUEST! PERHAPS IT'S FOR THE BEST!
WHEE!
BRRFF! I PROTEST! HARRUMPH! YOU CAN'T MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME, I'M SENATOR BLOWHARD!

OH, SENATOR, PLEASE BE MORE UNDERSTANDING!
I UNDERSTAND TOO WELL, YOUNG LADY (KOFF, KOFF) THE BOY WAS BORN TO CRIME! REFORMATORY, THAT'S WHAT HE NEEDS!

OH, YEAH? A JOB IS WHAT I NEED, SEE! I GOT NO DAD AND I GOTTA LOOK AFTER MY MOTHER ALONE!
JOB? HMM..I THINK I KNOW HOW YOU CAN GET ONE, SLATS!

SENATOR, YOU'RE SUCH A PROMINENT FIGURE IN POLITICS, SURELY YOU CAN DO SOMETHING FOR SLATS!
WHAT, ME, (SPUTTER) NONSENSE! I WON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!

OH, COME NOW, SENATOR!... YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ME, I KNOW A KIND-HEARTED, UNDERSTANDING GENEROUS MAN WHEN I SEE ONE....AND SO GOOD LOOKING TOO!
WELL, NOW... HARRUMMMPH....

HERE'S MY CARD, YOUNG MAN! COME AND SEE ME TOMORROW!
GEE, THANKS, SENATOR, YOU'RE A SWELL EGG!

HIYA GANG!
HIYA SLATS! HOW'S MY PROTEGE GETTING ALONG IN HIS NEW JOB!
SWELL! THEY SURE TRUST ME A LOT...EVEN LEMME HANDLE THE PAYROLL!..I GUESS BEIN' RECOMMENDED BY A SENATOR AND A G-MAN CARRIES A LOTTA WEIGHT!
TONIGHT'S MY BIRTHDAY, AND MA WANTS YOU ALL OVER FER A KINDA CELEBRATION! WILL YA COME, HUH?
YOU BET WE WILL!
WE'VE BEEN WANTING TO MEET YOUR MOTHER FOR A LONG TIME!
SLATS RETURNS TO HIS OWN HOME.....
GEE, WOTTA SWELL BUNCH! 'N MA'LL BE TICKLED SILLY TO MEET 'EM!
HEY MA! I GOT GOOD NEWS....WH...WHA... BLINKER!
HIYA, KID! YOU DON'T ACT PLEASED TO SEE AN OLD FRIEND!
I HEARD YOU GOT YOURSELF A SOFT JOB... HANDLIN' PAYROLLS! I GOT A PROPOSITION FOR YOU!
GET OUT! I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF YOU!
DIDN'T YUH LEARN NOT TO GIMME ANY LIP! YOU'LL DO LIKE I SAY, ALRIGHT! ...WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!
SMACK
I TOOK YOUR OLD LADY TO THE HIDEOUT...JUST IN CASE YUH GOT STUBBORN! YUH WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO HER, WOULD YA?
6

NOW, MAYBE YOU'LL DO LIKE I TELL YUH, SEE! WE'RE GOIN' BACK TO YOUR JOINT, 'N YOU'RE GONNA DO A LITTLE HEIST JOB, SEE?
B..BUT WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE COMIN' TO MY PARTY TONIGHT?
I GOT THAT ALL FIGGERED OUT! YOU'RE WORKIN' OVERTIME, SEE! 'N YOUR OLD LADY'S GONNA ENTERTAIN 'EM!
YA MEAN YOU'RE GONNA LET MY MOTHER GO FREE!
I DON'T MEAN NOTHIN' OF THE KIND! CURLY THERE IS GONNA PLAY MOTHER FER TONIGHT!
NOW, WAIT A MINUTE, BLINKER I...I....
AW HAVE A HEART, BLINKER, I NEVER WUZ A MUDDER BEFORE!
CLAM UP, 'N GET INTO THESE DUDS! THEY NEVER SAW THE OLD LADY!
BLINKER AND SLATS DRIVE TO THE FACTORY.
AND THEN WHAT DO I DO?
AFTER YUH CLEAN OUT THE SAFE, YUH BRING THE DOUGH TO ME! I'LL BE WAITING OUTSIDE IN THE CAR!
SLATS ENTERS THE FACTORY AND IS MET BY THE NIGHT WATCHMAN
OH, IT'S YOU, KID! WORKIN' OVER-TIME, HUH?
Y.... YEAH, PADDY!
GEE..WHAT'LL I DO? I JUST CAN'T ROB THAT SAFE!..MY BOSS TRUSTS ME!
RAISIN' THIS WINDOW'LL SEND IN AN ALARM! I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE RAP BUT BLINKER WON'T KNOW IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT, 'N THEN, HE WON'T TAKE IT OUT ON MY MOM!

HOW DO YOU DO, MRS. GORDON! I'M JOE HIGGINS, AND...
OH, YES! COME RIGHT IN. ...SLATS IS STILL AT THE OFFICE!
ISN'T THERE SOMETHING PECULIAR ABOUT MRS. GORDON'S ACTIONS, JOE?
HMMM, YES BETTY!
NONSENSE! SHE STRIKES ME AS A CHARMING WOMAN!
HRRMPH...BRRPP. YOU KNOW, MRS. GORDON, YOU'RE QUITE A YOUNG MOTHER!
OH, SENATOR, YOUSE...ER..YOU ARE A FLATTERER!
NOT AT ALL...KOFF..KOFF.. AND VERY PRETTY, TOO!
AW, NUTS...AH..ER.. I MEAN, HOW NICE!
JOE'S KEEN EARS SUDDENLY PICK UP POLICE SIRENS...
TROUBLE SOMEWHERE, DUSTY!
WELL WHAT'RE WE WAITIN' FOR?
JOE AND DUSTY SLIP OUT UNNOTICED. A QUICK CHANGE, AND THE SHIELD AND THE BOY DETECTIVE STREAK TOWARD THE DIRECTION OF THE SIRENS.
WHILE, BLINKER WHO IS PARKED OUTSIDE THE FACTORY...
CRIPES! THE COPS!
BEFORE THE GANGSTER CAN MAKE A GET-A-WAY...
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT!
HEY! WHADDA YA WANT WITH ME?
8

I SUPPOSE YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS KID EITHER!
BETCHA SWEET LIFE I DON'T! IS IT MY FAULT IF THAT PUNK TRIES TO BUST THE JOINT?
JUST THEN THE SHIELD AND DUSTY ARRIVE.
GREAT GUNS, DUSTY! IT'S SLATS!
AND THAT'S THE GANGSTER HE WAS MIXED UP WITH THE FIRST TIME!
G'WAN, KID! TELL 'EM YA DON'T KNOW ME!
ER. AH. YEAH! I NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE IN MY LIFE!
WE'RE TAKIN' YOU BOTH ALONG ANYHOW!
DUSTY, SLATS IS LYING FOR SOME MYSTERIOUS REASON! YOU KEEP AN EYE ON HIM, I'M GOING BACK TO THE HOUSE!
RIGHT, SHIELD!
AT THE STATION HOUSE....
I TELL YA, THIS GUY HAD NOTH'N' TO DO WITH IT, YA GOTTA LET H M GO! YA GOTTA!
SHUT UP! WE'LL GIVE THE ORDERS!
OKAY! YOU'RE MAKIN' ME DO THIS! DON'T MOVE OR I'LL SHOOT!
CRIPES! HE GOT MY GUN!
THEY'RE LIABLE TO HURT MOM IF SLATS DON'T SHOW UP! I GOTTA GET TO THE HIDEOUT!
POLICE
BANG
THERE HE GOES! STOP HIM!
YOU GOT YOURSELF ANOTHER PASSENGER, SLATS!
BUT DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE IS NOT FAR BEHIND!

WHILE BACK IN SLAT'S HOME..
HO HUM..GUESS I'LL TURN ON THE RADIO!
THE BOY REFUSES TO GIVE HIS NAME BUT THE OTHER IS IDENTIFIED AS BUNKER GORDON NOTORIOUS GANGSTER!
CRIPES! THE JIG'S UP! I GOTTA BLOW!
ER.. I'M THIRSTY, SENATOR!
I'LL GET YOU SOME PUNCH, MY DEAR!
YOU'LL GET SOME PUNCH ALL RIGHT, YA OLD GOAT!
UMPH!
CLUB
JUST AS THE DISGUISED THUG IS ABOUT TO BLACKJACK THE SENATOR
HERE YOU ARE MY PET. WHA.. WHA NOW WHERE DID SHE GO?
HONEST *SHIELD*! I DON'T KNOW WHERE BUNKER'S GOT THE OLD LADY! I'M NOT IN HIS MOB! HE JUST RUNG ME IN! FER THIS JOB!
YA GOTTA BELIEVE ME!
THIS RAT'S TOO SCARED TO BE LYING! I'LL JUST WAIT UNTIL *DUSTY* GETS IN TOUCH WITH ME!
AT THAT MOMENT..
HMM... LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE LINE!
YOU! HOW'D YOU GET HERE?
GET OUT OF MY WAY OR I'LL BLAST YA!
NOT BEFORE YOU TELL ME WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
10

BLINKER'S GANG GOT MY MOTHER IN THERE! THEY'LL KILL HER NOW, GET OUTTA MY WAY!
OH SO THAT'S IT!
YOU'VE GOTTEN INTO TOO MUCH TROUBLE ALREADY!
NOW YOU STAY HERE, N KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN! RESCUING PEOPLE IS MY DEPARTMENT!
FIRST, I'LL CONTACT THE SHIELD LIKE HE TOLD ME TO!
DUSTY TAKES OUT HIS KIT, AND ESTABLISHES A CONNECTION!
AT THE SHIELD'S LABORATORY.
MORSE CODE! IT'S DUSTY! TELLING ME WHERE HE IS!
WHILE IN THE HIDEOUT....
LET ME GO! PLEASE LET ME GO!
YOU BETCHA WE WILL MRS GORDON! RIGHT NOW! BLINKER SAID TO KNOCK YOU OFF, IF HE DIDN'T COME BACK!
SAY YER PRAYERS LADY!
YOU BETTER START SAYIN' YOURS IF YOU KNOW ANY!
YOU'RE OUTTA YOUR LEAGUE WHEN YOU FIGHT SOMEBODY WITH PANTS YOU RATS!

MEANWHILE, SLATS BREAKS HIS BONDS AND...
I'M GOIN IN AFTER MY MOM!..NOBODY CAN STOP ME!
AS SLATS ENTERS...
SLATS! MY SON! YOU'VE SHOT HIM!
Ooo
AND NOW WE'RE GONNA FINISH YOU OFF!
CRACK
I'LL BE OKAY MOM! THE BULLET ONLY GRAZED MY HEAD!
OH, THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT MY BOY!
BUT HE AIN'T GONNA BE FER LONG! NEITHER ARE YOU!
BEFORE THE KILLER CAN SEND OUT HIS BLAST OF DEATH...
RAT-TAT-TAT...
HEY, LOOK THE SHIELD!
YES! THE SHIELD!..YOU MISERABLE MICE, AND I'M GOING TO DO A JOB ON YOU BEFORE THE POLICE ARRIVE!
JUST THEN, THE POLICE TRACK DOWN THE CAR STOLEN BY SLATS!
THE KID MUST BE IN THAT SHACK, PAT!
WELCOME GENTLEMEN! YOU'VE COME JUST IN TIME!
JUDAS PRIEST! WHAT GOES ON HERE?

COME ON, SON! WE'RE ALL GOING BACK TO THE POLICE!.. YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO.
I WON'T MAKE ANY-MORE TROUBLE, NOW THAT MOM'S ALL RIGHT, SHIELD!
HMM! SO YOU DELIBERATELY TURNED IN THE ALARM AT THE WAREHOUSE!
SURE! BUT I COULDN'T SAY SO! THOSE KILLERS SAID THEY'D KILL MOM IF I DOUBLE-CROSSED THEM!
I GUESS SLATS HAS PROVED HIMSELF NOW HUH, SARGE?
PROVED HIMSELF! ALL HE DID WAS HELP US ROUND UP THE MOST VICIOUS GANG IN THE CITY!
WELL, I GUESS YOU CAN RUN BACK TO YOUR PARTY, NOW, KID! YOU'VE GOT GUESTS, REMEMBER?
SURE, HA, HA, S LONG 'N THANKS!
SLATS AND HIS MOTHER RETURN TO THEIR HOME AND SEE...
WELL, WELL, SO YOU'VE COME AT LAST! WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE!
(HIC) YESH! FINE WAY TO TREAT A SHENATOR!
HEY! THAT BANDAGE! YOU HAVEN'T BEEN GETTING INTO ANY TROUBLE, SLATS! I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU, YOU KNOW!
THIS BANDAGE KEPT ME OUT OF TROUBLE
IS HE KIDDIN' US, JOE?
(HIC) YOU'RE EVEN PRETTIER THAN BEFORE MISH GORDON!
SENATOR, PLEASE!
IN EVERY ISSUE OF PEP COMICS, THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE ARE IN THERE, PUNCHING! STRIVING TO GIVE YOU THE BEST YARN A DIME OR A DOLLAR CAN BRING...AND THE EVER-GROWING POPULARITY OF THIS LOVABLE DUO IS GRATIFYING PROOF OF THEIR SUCCESS!
13

SIBILANT, MOCKING LAUGH PIERCES THE THICK DRAPES OF GLOOM THEN A SUDDEN BEAM OF LIGHT THE SHADOW OF A GALLOWS. GRIM REMINDERS TO THE CONSCIENCE OF THE UNDERWORLD THAT THE PATHS OF CRIME LEAD ONLY TO

THE HANGMAN

BY CLIFF CAMPBELL-

CRASH!
THE COMET! WHY YOU...
THIS IS ONE OF BIG BOY MALONE'S MOB! HE'LL TELL PLENTY IF HE'S SWEATED! JOHN DICKERING WHO HELPED ME CATCH HIM, WILL TESTIFY ALSO

ONE NIGHT THE POLICE ARE STARTLED BY THE CRASHING ENTRY INTO THE STATION HOUSE OF ONE THEY THINK TO BE THEIR ENEMY-THE COMET.

THE COMET IS AS USUAL, REPAID FOR HIS TROUBLES WITH BULLETS.
THE COMET RETURNS TO HIS APARTMENT
THELMA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!
WAITING FOR YOU-AS USUAL!
OH, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT OUR DATE. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, THEL. BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE, YOU KNOW?
OH, COMET! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THIS UP AND BECOME JUST PLAIN JOHN DICKERING YOU'VE MORE THAN ATONED FOR THE ACCIDENTAL KILLING OF THAT POLICEMAN!
WE COULD BE MARRIED, AND
NO, THEL! WE COULD NEVER BE HAPPY. MY CONSCIENCE WOULDN'T ALLOW ME. WHILE I LIVE, I'VE GOT TO TRY AND MAKE AMENDS!
AS THE COMET GOES TO ANOTHER ROOM TO DRESS, A FIGURE MAKES FOR HIS APARTMENT
WOW! IS JOHN GOING TO BE SURPRISED TO SEE ME!
WHAT IN THE COMET! WHY! I THOUGHT MY BROTHER, JOHN DICKERING GOOD LORD! YOU ARE JOHN!
ROBERT!
TO THINK MY OWN MEEK BROTHER IS THE COMET, THE ONE I ADMIRE SO MUCH!
WELL, I GUESS I'M CAUGHT! BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN COLLEGE NOW, AREN'T YOU?

A FINE BROTHER YOU ARE! DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT I'VE JUST GRADUATED WITH A MASTER'S DEGREE!
WELL I'VE BEEN KIND OF BUSY, AND...
OH ER THEL! I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN. THIS IS..
I HEARD! YOUR BROTHER! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME ABOUT HIM BEFORE!
HE'S MUCH TOO GOOD LOOKING, HA, HA, HA! SAY I'VE GOT AN IDEA! ROBERT CAN TAKE YOU OUT TONIGHT. I'VE GOT SOME WORK TO FINISH UP!
SAY! I'LL HAVE TO DROP IN ON YOU UNEXPECTEDLY MUCH MORE OFTEN WITH THIS SORT OF INDUCEMENT!
THE NEXT FEW WEEKS ARE EXTREMELY BUSY ONES FOR THELMA AS SHE MAKES THE ROUNDS OF THE TOWN-ESCORTED EVERYWHERE BY BOB DICKERING!
CLUB M
IN THE APARTMENT OF BIG BOY MALONE, AS THE DAY OF THE TRIAL OF THE CRIMINAL CAUGHT BY THE COMET DRAWS CLOSE...
THE D A'S GONNA GIVE CHUGGER THE WORKS ON THE STAND, TOMORROW. AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS!
YEAH! HE'LL BLOW THE LID RIGHT OFF OUR RACKET!
THERE'S ONLY ONE GUY WHOSE TESTIMONY COUNTS- JOHN DICKERING. WE GOTTA RUB HIM OUT 'N SPRING CHUGGER. IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
3

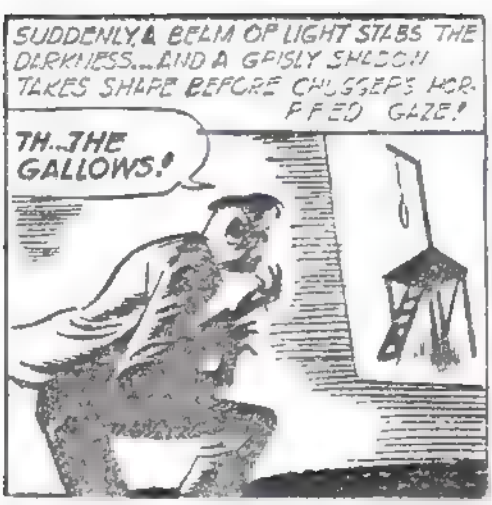
MEANWHILE, IN THE LABOR-ATORY OF THE COMET!
HIYA, KIDS! HAVIN' A GOOD TIME?
YES! IN SPITE OF YOU, JOHN DICKERING!
LOOK, JOHN... WHY DON'T YOU GET SOME SENSE!
HOW CAN A GUY IN HIS RIGHT MIND NEGLECT A GIRL AS NICE AS THEL THE WAY YOU DO?
HEY! YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH HER YOURSELF!
YOU SHOULDN'T SAY SUCH THINGS, JOHN! YOUR BROTHER IS A FINE CHAP.-AND YOU'VE HURT HIS FEELINGS!
I DIDN'T MEAN IT THAT WAY, THEL. I WAS JUST JOKING!
JOKING! THAT'S THE BIG TROUBLE WITH YOU YOU TAKE EVERYTHING AND EVERYBODY LIGHTLY-EXCEPT YOUR WORK! YOU COULD WELL USE SOME OF ROBERTS QUALITIES!
NO DOUBT OF IT, THEL!
AS BOB WALKS OUT, STILL ANGRY-
HEY, YOU! IS YOUR NAME DICKERING?
WHY, YES! BUT..
NEVER MIND THE BUTS, THAT'S ALL WE WANT TO KNOW -NOW JUST WALK NICE AND QUIET TO THAT CAR IF YUH DON'T WANT TO GET HURT!
AT THAT MOMENT, THE COMET LOOKS OUT AND SEES-
BOB'S IN TROUBLE!

THE COMET GOES TO HIS BROTHERS AID, ZOOMING AFTER THE CAR. HE RAISES HIS VISOR, AND BLASTS A TIRE!
BOB TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION AND MAKES A BREAK.
STOP, OR I'LL BLAST YOU!
DOD DOD
GREAT GUNS! THEY'RE SHOOTING AT BOB!
LOOK!.. THE COMET!
OKAY! NOW YUH GET IT!
THE COMET DRAWS THE KILLER'S FIRE FROM HIS BROTHER TO HIMSELF!
OOO!
COMET, WATCH OUT!
BOB BECOMES A TEARING ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION AS HE SEES HIS BROTHER'S PLIGHT!
A PASSING POLICE CAR IS ATTRACTED BY THE SHOOTING AND RUSHES TO THE SCENE...
THERE THEY ARE! MUST BE A GANG WAR!
5

BOB FINDS HIMSELF CAUGHT IN A CROSS-FIRE!
MUST GET HIM OUT OF HERE! HE MAY STILL BE ALIVE!
THE BACK ALLEY. IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT!
THIS FIRE ESCAPE'LL TAKE M'E BACK TO THE COMET'S LABORATORY!
HERE WE ARE!
HE'S STILL BREATHING-BUT FAINTLY. MUST GET HIS CLOTHING OFF!
COMET! OH! HE- HE'S...
EASY, THEL! WE'VE ALL GOT TO GO SOMETIME!
MY TURN NOW! YOU TWO STICK TOGETHER! KIND OF MEMORIAL TO ME G GOOD-BYE, BOB! BYE THEL...AAAHH!
JOHN! YOU MUSTN'T DIE! YOU MUSTN'T!
HE'S DEAD, BOB! (SOB SOB) THE GREATEST MAN I EVER KNEW!
HE DID IT TO SAVE MY LIFE, THEL!
6

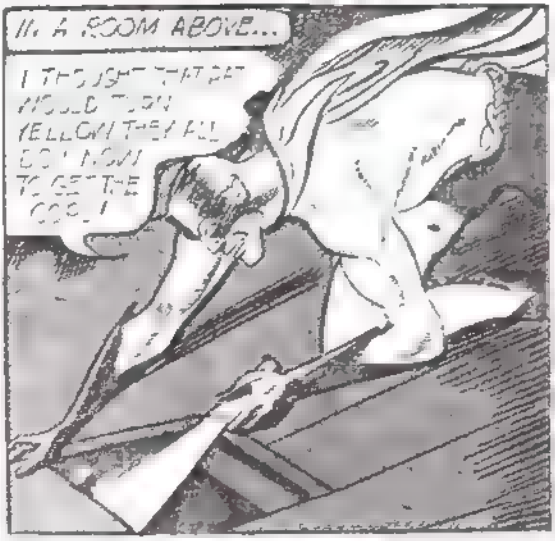
I'LL CARRY ON FOR HIM THEL! I'LL BRING HIS MURDERERS TO THE HANGMAN! I'LL BE THEIR HANGMAN!
BOB BENDS HIS EFFORTS IMMEDIATELY TO HIS TASK IN HIS DEAD BROTHERS LABORATORY....
CRIMINALS ARE ALL COWARDS AT HEART, SO MY FIRST TASK WILL BE TO FIND A UNIFORM THAT WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS!
I'VE GOT IT! NOW, I'LL GET INTO MY NEW OUTFIT AND SEE WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
AND SO IS BORN, GANGLAND'S MOST FEARFUL MENACE.... THE HANGMAN!
THE DAY OF THE TRIAL....
YOUR HONOR, WHERE IS THE CHIEF WITNESS, MR. JOHN DICKERING?
APPARENTLY, MR. DICKERING WILL NOT SHOW UP TO PREFER CHARGES! CASE DISMISSED!
HA, HA! WE TOLD YOU, YOU'D BE SPRUNG, DIDN'T WE? MALONE ALWAYS PLAYS BALL WITH HIS BOYS!
SUDDENLY, A DRAB-CLOAKED FIGURE FLASHES FROM BEHIND A PILLAR.... THE HANGMAN!
BOP
WHA.. WHO.. HOW?
7

HERE'S A SLEEPING POWDER FOR YOU, TOO... TO MAKE YOU LESS TROUBLESOME!
BOP
WITH THE UNCONSCIOUS CHUGGER IN HIS ARMS THE HANGMAN LEAPS OUT A WINDOW!
AND HURTLES TOWARD A TRUCK STACKED WITH HAY
HALP! MURDER! KIDNAPPER! HE'S DRIVING AWAY IN THAT TRUCK!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THE TRUCK WENDS ITS WAY UP A STEEP MOUNTAIN TRAIL, AND THEN, AS DARK DESCENDS..
SCREECH
I MUST HAVE HIT H'M HARDER THAN I THOUGHT! HE'S STILL OUT COLD!... WELL, ALL THE BETTER FOR MY PURPOSE!
WHEN CHUGGER REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...
WHA..WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE AM I?..WH..WHY IS IT SO DARK IN HERE?
FOR HOURS THE KILLER IS LEFT IN THE DARKNESS, UNTIL...
WHY DON'T SOMEBODY COME? LEMME OUTTA HERE! I'M GOIN' NUTS!


SUDDENLY A BEAM OF LIGHT STABS THE DARKNESS...AND A GRISLY SHADOW TAKES SHAPE BEFORE CHUGGER'S HORRIFIED GAZE!
TH..THE GALLOWS!

STOP IT! STOP IT! I'M GOIN' CRAZY! WHO-DA-YE WANT? WHO ARE YOU?
THEN A HOLLOW VOICE FLOODS THE ROOM...
TELL ALL, KUPCAKE! TELL ALL, OR MEET YOUR MAKIN'!

I'LL TELL EVERYTHING TO THE COPS TO ANYBODY, ABOUT EVERYTHING! ONLY GET ME OUTTA HERE!

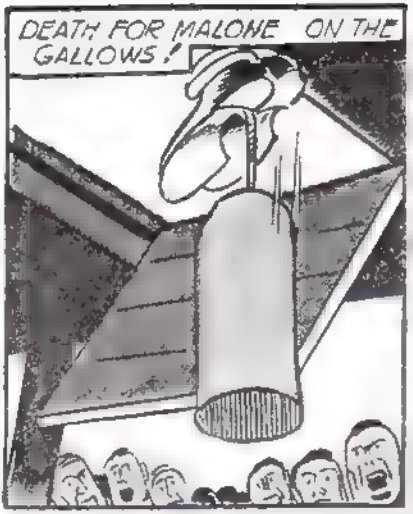

IN A ROOM ABOVE...
I THOUGHT THAT'D HOLD THEM YELLOW! THEY ALL DO! NOW TO GET THE COPS!

COPS GOTTA BE COME TO 12 BARRET STREET IMMEDIATELY!
WHO?..WHAT?... THE HANGMAN?... IS THIS A GAG? HELLO! HELLO!

CALLING CAR SEVEN! GO TO 12 BARRET STREET! CALLING CAR...
P.D.

WHILE AT 12 BARRET STREET..
A YA LET CHUGGER GET KIDNAPPED RIGHT UNDER YER NOSE!
IT HAPPENED TOO QUICKLY, BIG BOY!

NOBODY PULLS A STUNT LIKE THAT ON BIG BOY MALONE! I'LL GET THE GUY WHO.....
SUDDENLY THE LIGHTS GO OUT!
THE DARKNESS IS PIERCED BY A SINGLE RAY OF LIGHT AND ON THE WALL IS FLASHED THE HANGMAN'S CALLING CARD!
CRIPES!.. ..G.GAL-LOWS!
YOUR GALLOWS MALONE!
SH... SHOOT HIM!
SHOOT AND BE HANGED!.. NOT A BAD EXPRESSION, EH, MALONE?
LET GO... AAARRHH!
JUST THEN... ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY! GET YOUR HANDS UP!
LOOK! THE CLOAKED GUY! HE'S JUMPING OUT THE WINDOW!
BANG
THE HANGMAN SWINGS PENDULUM-LIKE FROM THE TELEPHONE WIRES TO THE ADJOINING ROOF... AND ESCAPES!
10



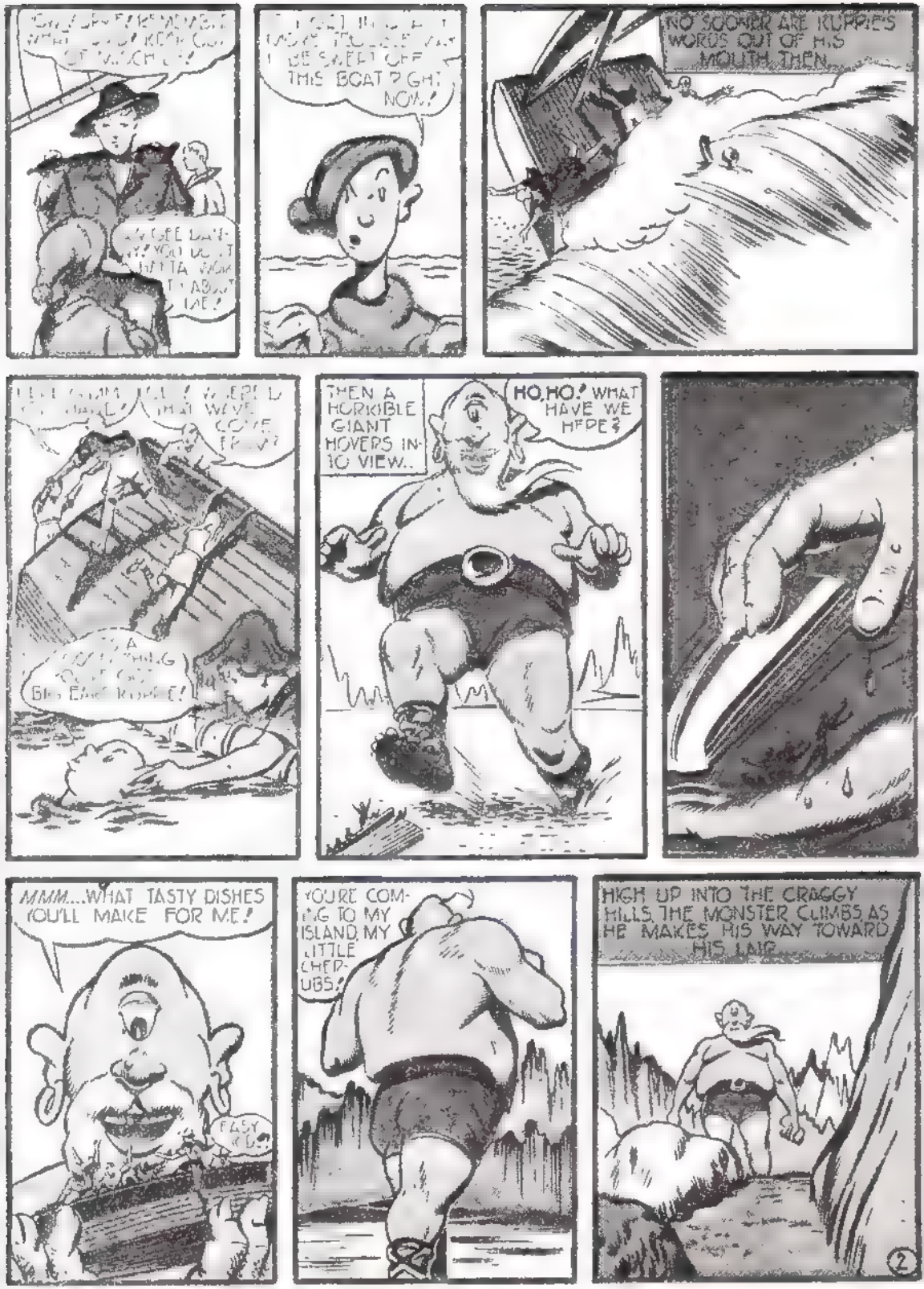
AND NOW, I'LL CARRY ON HIS WORK! THE COMET HAS DIED. BUT HIS SPIRIT LIVES ON...IN THE HANGMAN! BEWARE, CRIMINALS YOU CANNOT OUTRUN YOUR OWN CONSCIENCE.. NOR ESCAPE THE GALLOWS!

WELL, BOYS AND GIRLS, HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS UNIQUE AND THRILLING FEATURE? WE STEWED AND COOKED OUR BRAINS FOR MONTHS TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING **NEW!** AND **DIFFERENT!** WE THINK WE'VE ACHIEVED ABSOLUTE SUCCESS WITH THE **HANGMAN**.... DO YOU?

DO YOU LIKE HIM WELL ENOUGH TO WANT TO SEE A MAGAZINE OF 64 COMPLETE PAGES OF BRAND NEW **HANGMAN** ADVENTURES?

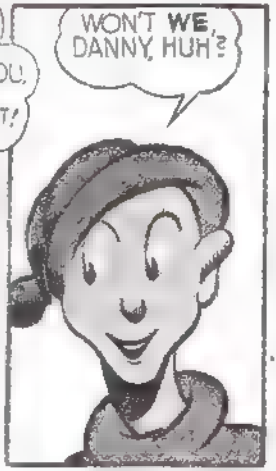
IF YOU DO, WRITE TO THE **HANGMAN**
P.M. 315
60 HUDSON ST
N.Y.C.

DANNY IN WONDER-LAND
DANNY, IN THE LAST EPISODE SUCCEEDED IN RESCUING SOME BAD LITTLE BOYS AND GIRLS FROM THE ISLAND OF PLAYLAND, WHERE THEY WERE ABOUT TO BE TURNED INTO JACKASSES. NOW THEY ARE ON A SAILBOAT, HOMEWARD BOUND.
ER..AH..GULP! MY NAMES KUPKAKE! WHAT'S YOURS?
MARGIE!
GEE WHIZZ! THATS AN AWFUL PRETTY NAME. ER.. DO YOUR EYES BOTHER YOU!?
NO, WHY?
WELL...UH THEY BOTHER ME A LOT!
TEE HEE! YOU SURE ARE CUTE KUPKAKE!


NO SOONER ARE KUPPIE'S WORDS OUT OF HIS MOUTH, THEN...
THEN A HORRIBLE GIANT HOVERS IN-TO VIEW...
HO,HO! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
MMM....WHAT TASTY DISHES YOU'LL MAKE FOR ME!
YOU'RE COM-ING TO MY ISLAND, MY LITTLE CHER-UBS!
HIGH UP INTO THE CRAGGY HILLS THE MONSTER CLIMBS AS HE MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD HIS LAIR
2

AND
ESCAPE
UP THE
ENTRANCE!

OH GOOD! DON'T CRY MARGIE!
WE DO! LL SAVE YOU.
YOU MUST ALL
SAVE US! RIGHT!


WON'T WE, DANNY, HUH?

WELL, WE'LL TRY
'N OUTSMART
IDEA.. BUT YOU
YOU BETCHA WE WILL, DANNY!
JUST TELL US WHAT TO DO!

FIRST GET A PAIR OF SHEARS OUT OF THE BOAT'S HOLD!

NOW, WE'RE GONNA CUT OFF SOME WOOL FROM THESE SHEEP 'N START A FIRE IN HERE!

WHEN I LIGHT THIS, I WANT SOME OF YOU KIDS TO KEEP THE FLAMES SMOTHERED SO'S TO MAKE LOTS OF SMOKE!
3.

WHAT IF WE CLIMB N UP HERE FOR DANNY?
YOU'LL SEE SOON, EASY NOW KUPPE!
OUTSIDE THE GIANT IS AROUSED FROM HIS SLUMBER
(SNIFF, SNIFF)...I SMELL SMOKE! WHY, IT'S COMING FROM MY CAVE!
I BETTER LOOK IN AND SEE WHAT THOSE SCAMPS ARE UP TO IN THERE!...IT'S SO SMOKY, I CAN HARDLY SEE A THING!
HERE HE IS! NOW BOULDERS
OWOOO!
BONG
MY EYE! I'M BLIND!
CURSE THEM!
BLAST YE! I CAN'T SEE YOU NOW, BUT YOU JUST WAIT TILL I CAN!
SCATTER BEHIND THE ROCKS KIDS!

GOLLY, DANNY! ALL WE DID WUZ TO GET HIM MAD!
AND BLIND TOO, KUPPIE! NOW WE'RE GOING TO RIP THE SAIL OFF THE SHIP!
HURRY, KIDS! THE GIANT WILL BE TAKING HIS SHEEP OUT TO PASTURE ANY MINUTE NOW!
YEAH, SNAP IT UP.. DANNY 'N ME KNOW WHAT WE'RE DOIN!
JUST WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO, KUPPIE?
TELL 'EM!
THE GIANT CAN'T SEE, SO IF WE TIE OURSELVES UNDER THE SHEEP, WE'LL BE ABLE TO SNEAK PAST HIM!
YA SEE HOW SIMPLE IT IS..IF YA'LL JUST LISTEN TO ME 'N DANNY, WE'LL ALL ESCAPE!
HEY, DANNY LOOK! THERE'S ONLY THIS GOAT LEFT!
WELL, YOU'LL HAVE TO USE HIM, KUPPIE!
WHEW! WHATTA SMELL!
MY SHEEP MUST BE HUNGRY!.. MUST FEED THEM NICE AND FAT! I'LL ATTEND TO THOSE KIDS LATER!
I'LL FEEL WITH MY HANDS TO MAKE SURE ONLY THE SHEEP LEAVE THE CAVE!

OBOY! A FLOWER! I'LL PICK IT FOR MAGGIE!
HEY! THE GOAT'S EATING MY FLOWER! LEGGO!
WHAT'S THAT? I HEAR A VOICE! THE BRATS! THEY'RE TRYING TO ESCAPE!
M..M.MAAA!
LEGGO THAT FLOWER, I TELL YA!
SO! THEY'VE TIED THEMSELVES UNDER MY SHEEP!
GOSH! HE'S GOT KUPPIE! I GOTTA TRY 'N SAVE HIM!
DANNY! HELLLP!
DANNY DRAWS HIS SWORD AND LEAPS TO THE ATTACK...
HE'S GOT A CORN! I'LL JAB IT WITH MY SWORD!
OWOO.. MY CORN!
THE GOAT WITH KUPPIE UNDER IT IS DROPPED TO THE GROUND
UGH!
..AND OFF IT GOES...
HAALLP! DANNY! I'M TIED TO A MOUNTAIN GOAT!
AARRK! JUST LET ME GET MY HANDS ON YOU!
WOW! IS HE MAD!
6

DANNY GETS A BURNING BRAND FROM THE CAVE AND..
I'LL SHOW THAT BIG STIFF!
AS THE GIANT GRABS AT THE SCATTERING SHEEP DANNY RUSHES TO SET FIRE TO HIS BEARD!
(ROAR) MY BEARD'S ON FIRE!
UNABLE TO SEE AND FRANTIC WITH FRIGHT, THE GIANT TUMBLES HIMSELF OFF THE CLIFF INTO THE SEA!
WHEEE! WE'RE SAVED! DANNY KILLED THE GIANT!
YES! HE'S DROWNED ALL RIGHT! HE'LL NEVER EAT ANOTHER HUMAN BEING AGAIN!
HURRAY!
OH, DANNY! YOU AND KUPPIE ARE WONDERFUL!
KUPPIE!
GEE, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT HIM! THE GOAT RAN OFF WITH HIM!
OFF INTO THE HILLS GOES DANNY IN SEARCH OF KUPPIE!
KUPPIE!.OH, KUPPIE! WHERE ARE YOU?
DANNY! I'M UP HERE!
WHA... WHERE?
LOOKA THE FLOWER I FOUND FER MARGIE!
IN THE NEXT PEP DANNY AND KUPPIE ENCOUNTER THEIR MOST DANGEROUS ADVENTURE AS THEY MATCH WITS WITH THE MURDERING THIEVES OF WONDERLAND!
HA, HA, HA! HANG ON KUPPIE! I'LL BE RIGHT UP!

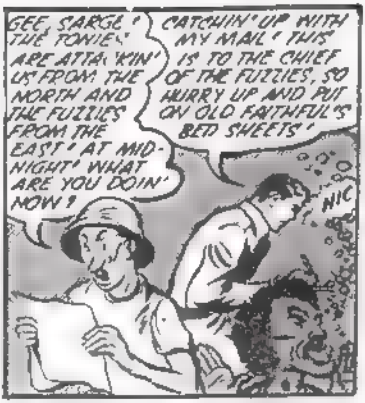
SERGEANT BOYLE
A HANDFUL OF DESPERATE MEN IS ALL THAT REMAINS OF A LONE BRITISH PATROL, TRAPPED BY ITALIAN-RULED FUZZY WUZZIES IN ERITREA. BOYLE AND TWERP, RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM GREECE, ARE IN THE MIDST OF THE THIN BLUE LINE!
KEEP GIVIN IT TO EM MEN! THIS MAY BE OUR FINISH BUT WE'LL CLEAN OUT A FEW OF THESE SHAGGY NIGHT-MARES FIRST!
BANG!
BANG
WHAC!
HEY! LOOK! VULTURES!
ZING
VULTURES? GRUESOME LOOKING THINGS AREN'T THEY SARGE? LOOK AT EM!
YOUR HEAD MAY BE THICK TWERP BUT IT WON'T STOP THOSE DUM-DUM BULLETS!
WHAT'S THAT?
ZING!
THEY'RE LEAVING! THAT FLARE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME KIND OF SIGNAL! WHO SENT IT UP?
YEAH! WHO THREW IT? SOMEBODY BETTER COME CLEAN, OR SO HELP ME I'LL SWEAT IT OUT OF YOU!
NO TIME FOR THAT NOW! THOSE FUZZIES MAY CHANGE THEIR MINDS AND COME BACK TO FINISH THE JOB! WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE THE OTHER BOYS! POOR DEVILS!

AT THE ITALIAN CAMP, NOT MANY MILES FROM THE BRITISH OUTPOST!
NO.' IL DUCE SHE'SA NOT TO BE DISTURB! BEAT IT!
WATSA MATT? DA SPAGHETT SHE WON'T STAY HOT! PASTAFASOOL! STROMBATS!
SURE, MR. H.! I GOT ALLA DA FUZZY WUZ-ZIES IN DA PALM OF MY HAND! I SENDA OUT DA ORDER FOR DA ATTACK RIGHTA WAY!
ATSA WHAT I SAY, TOO MR. H! EVERYTING SHE'SA GONNA BE OKEY DOKE! DONT A WORRY NO MORE - GOOM-BY!
TAKA DEES'A DISPATCH TO OUR AGENT INNA ENGLE'SA CAMP PRONTO! MAKE-A LIKE DA JACK-RABBIT! SCREM!
THAT AFTERNOON, IN THE NATIVE QUARTER OF BRITISH-OCCUPIED ADDIS-EL-HUCHI-KUCH!
THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE MORE I BECOME CONVINCED THE FLARE THAT WENT UP WAS A SIGNAL FROM A SPY AMONG OUR MEN TELLING THE FUZZIES TO LAY OFF! THE SPY MUST HAVE STEERED US INTO THAT TRAP, TOO
NUTS! IF BOYLE SEES ME PASS THIS NOTE TO THAT FUZZY, HE'LL CATCH WISE! MAYBE, WITH A LITTLE EXCITE-MENT, HE WON'T NOTICE!
AIEEEE
AW, QUIT THAT BABB-'N', YOU UGLY HEATHEN! SNED-EP!
TWO NATIVES LUNGE TOWARD THE OFFICER...
SO! MAYBE YOU FEEL LIKE STARTIN' A SCRAP! OKAY YOU ASKED FOR IT!
IN AN INSTANT, THE CAFE IS A SCENE OF SEETHING TUMULT!
NICE LEFT THERE! OH, OH! LOOK OUT FOR THAT BOTTLE! WOW! WHAT A CRACK! TOO BAD TWERP ISN'T HERE!
BIFF
SOCK!
Blaw!
2

HEY! HEY! WHAT GOES ON? STOP IT AT ONCE!
BOM!
HEY! THAT WAS TWERP? NO TWO HEADS CAN SOUND THAT HOLLOW!
NOW WHERE DID HE GO? PARDON ME, MAY I SQUEEZE THROUGH?
AND AS FOR YOU, DON'T YOU KNOW IT'S DANGEROUS TO PLAY WITH GUNS?
SEE WHAT I MEAN?
BAM!
TWERP FINDS SLEEPING CONDITIONS NOT ALL THEY MIGHT BE. BESIDES THE FLOOR IS HARD! BUT LOW
BREAK IT UP, BOYS. HERE COME THE MILITARY POLICE!
HEY, TWERP! C'MON, BEFORE THE M.P.'S GET HERE! WAKE UP!
A FINE PLACE TO SLEEP! ON THE FLOOR! YOU MISSED ALL THE FUN!
OH! MY HEAD!
GO AHEAD AN' KID ALL YOU WANT, BOYLE! WHILE I WAS ON THE FLOOR I SAW SOME-BODY SLIP A NOTE TO ONE OF OUR NATIVE SOLDIERS! THE NATIVE HAD A SCAR ON HIS ARM TOO!
YOU SAW THAT?
YOU'D RECOGNIZE THAT SCAR AGAIN? GOOD! WE'VE GOT TO STEP ON IT IF WE WANT TO CATCH THIS BIRD! HE'S BOUND TO HANG AROUND FOR CHOW! SO HERE'S WHAT WE DO.
3-

TA TA TA TA
ALL RIGHT YOU BLOOMIES! LINE UP! YOU THERE! STOP SCRATCHING!
NOW GET IN'S! WE HAVE WITH US A VERY DISTINGUISHED VISITOR FROM ENGLAND, DR. ANASTASIUS P. WHIPPLE. O.K. DOC, GO TO IT!
AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PODHAM-ON-TWEED LADIES AID SOCIETY AND CULTURAL LEAGUE, I AM HERE TO BRING CLEANLINESS AS WELL AS GODLINESS TO OUR POOR BENIGHTED BRETHREN!
BOY! LOOK AT CARGE!
NOW, GENTLEMEN, OUR FIRST LESSON IS CLEANLINESS. THOSE WITH SLEEVES PLEASE ROLL THEM UP! BRING OUT THE BUCKETS AND SOAP!
CAPTAIN TWERP AND I WILL PERSONALLY SUPERVISE THE RESULTS! SEE THAT YOU DO A THOROUGH JOB!
SIXTY-THREE NATIVES LATER AND BOYLE'S PATIENCE IS NEARING EXHAUSTION!
HOW DAT, BOSS!
LET'S SEE, MY GOOD-YOU NEEDN'T SPLASH QUITE SO... OH OH!
BLUB! BLUB! BLUB!
LET'S GET YOU GOOD AND CLEAN! HEY TWERP, IS THIS HIM?
WELL, WE DID IT!
OBBLE GLUG!
HE'S BOUND TO HAVE THE NOTE ON HIM! WE'LL TAKE HIM INTO YOUR TENT AND SEARCH HIM!
TAKE THAT BUCKET OFF TWERP AND WE'LL HUNT FOR THAT NOTE!
LOOK OUT! DON'T SWALLOW THAT SOAP!
ULP!

NOTHIN' IN HERE, S'ARGE!
NEVER MIND—I FOUND IT! HM... SO BENNY'S PULLING A FAST ONE, IS HE?
BURP


GEE, S'ARGE! THE TONIES ARE ATTA KIN' US FROM THE NORTH AND THE FUZZIES FROM THE EAST! AT MIDNIGHT! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' NOW?
CATCHIN' UP WITH MY MAIL! THIS IS TO THE CHIEF OF THE FUZZIES. SO HURRY UP AND PUT ON OLD FAITHFUL'S BED SHEETS!
NIC

WHAT FOR? I DON'T
OH NO!
OH, YES! THE LIFE OF EVERY MAN IN THE OUT POST DEPENDS ON THIS NOTE GETTING THROUGH
URK

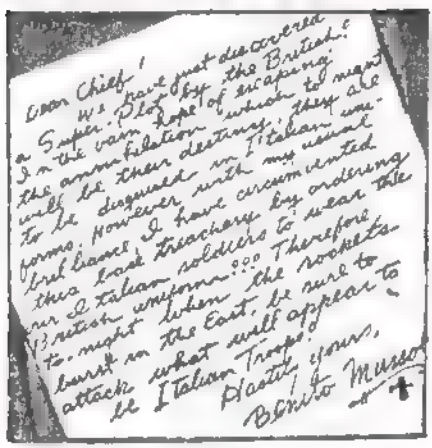
WE DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH TIME SO DON'T STOP TO PICK ANY FLOWERS! BETTER SMEAR THAT BURNT CORK ON YOUR HANDS TOO!
IT'S ONLY AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT THAT I'M DOIN' THIS. BESIDES THIS RIG ITCHES!

NOW I'D SAY THIS MAP WAS A FINE HEAD OF HAIR! HOLD STILL, WILL YOU?
YOU AND YOUR IDEAS—NUTS!

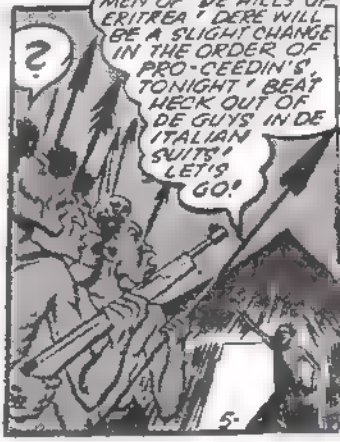
THAT NIGHT TWERP STEALTHILY APPROACHES THE FUZZY WUZZY ENCAMPMENT!
HEY! OW! WHOA, BOY! EASY THERE!

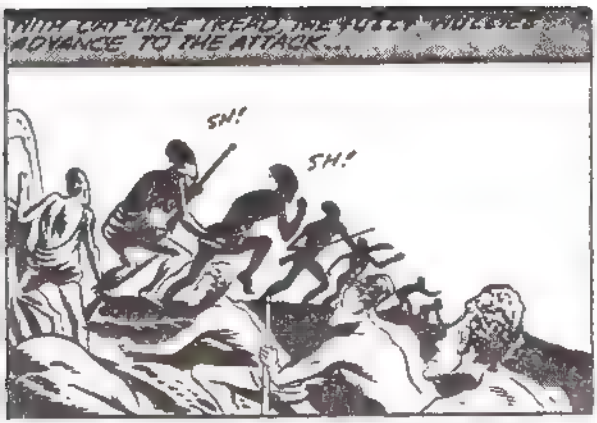
I BRING IMPORTANT NEWS FROM OUR ITALIAN SPONSORS! TAKE ME TO THE HEADMAN! NOW!
PUFF PUFF

O MIGHTY LION—I HAVE FLOWN LIKE THE WIND WITH MESSAGE FOR YOUR EXALTED ATTENTION!
GOOD! SLIP ME!


Dear Chief!
We have just discovered a Super Plot by the British! In the vain hope of escaping the annihilation which is about to befall their destroyers, they are to be disguised in Italian uniforms. However, with my usual brilliance I have circumvented this last treachery by ordering our Italian soldiers to wear the British uniform!!! Therefore, should we meet them in the East, be sure to attack, for what will appear to be Italian Troops!
Yours,
Benito Mussolini
+

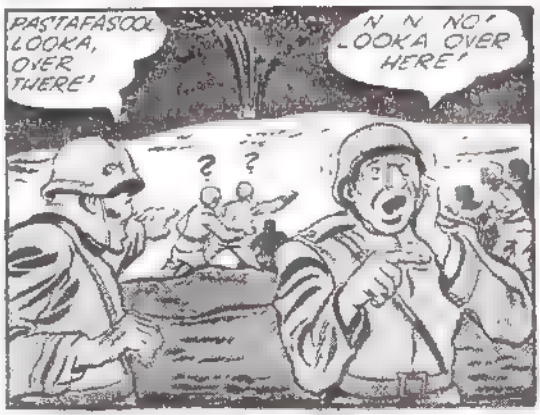
MAY BE MILITARY STRATEGY! BUT IT SHO' DO SOUND DOPEY TO ME!


?
MEN OF DE HILLS OF ERITREA! DERE WILL BE A SLIGHT CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF PRO-CEEDIN'S, TONIGHT! BEAT HECK OUT OF DE GUYS IN DE ITALIAN SUITS! LET'S GO!
5-

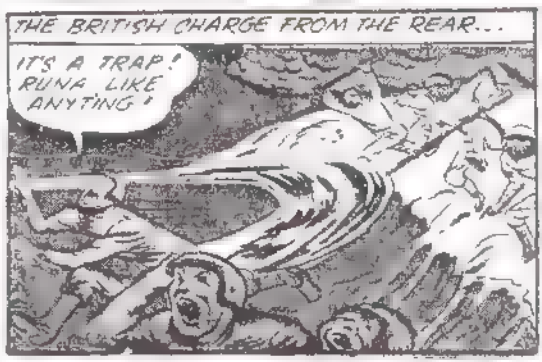

WITH CAT-LIKE TREAD THE FUZZY WUZZIES ADVANCE TO THE ATTACK...
SH!
SH!

SHOOT OFF THE FIRST BATCH IN FIVE MINUTES! WHEN THE FUZZIES CHARGE. SEND UP THE REST SO THEY CAN SPOT THOSE TONY UNIFORMS! WE HAVE ENOUGH TO LAST TEN MINUTES, SO MAKE IT GOOD!

IN THE ITALIAN CAMP ALL IS IN READINESS..
ATTENTION! DA TIME ISA COME! OUR DUCE IS A BEHIND US WE CANNOT FAIL! FORWARD..


PASTAFASOOL LOOKA, OVER THERE!
N N NO! LOOKA OVER HERE!
? ?

THE ROOKERS OUR OF NERO THE FUZZIES POUR DOWN FROM THE HILL!
BOOM!
BANG!
NO! NO! THATA WAY!
MAMA MIA!
HELPA! RUNA!


THE BRITISH CHARGE FROM THE REAR...
IT'S A TRAP! RUNA LIKE ANYTING!

DON'T WORRY, DUCE - WE HAVE THEM OUTNUMBERED TEN TO ONE! EVEN NOW, WE WHAT'S THAT?
RUN! WE'RE LOSTA! RUN!
BOOM! BOOM!

MARRONE! WHAT WEEL ADOLFO SAY! I SHOULDA STAY IN DA BED!

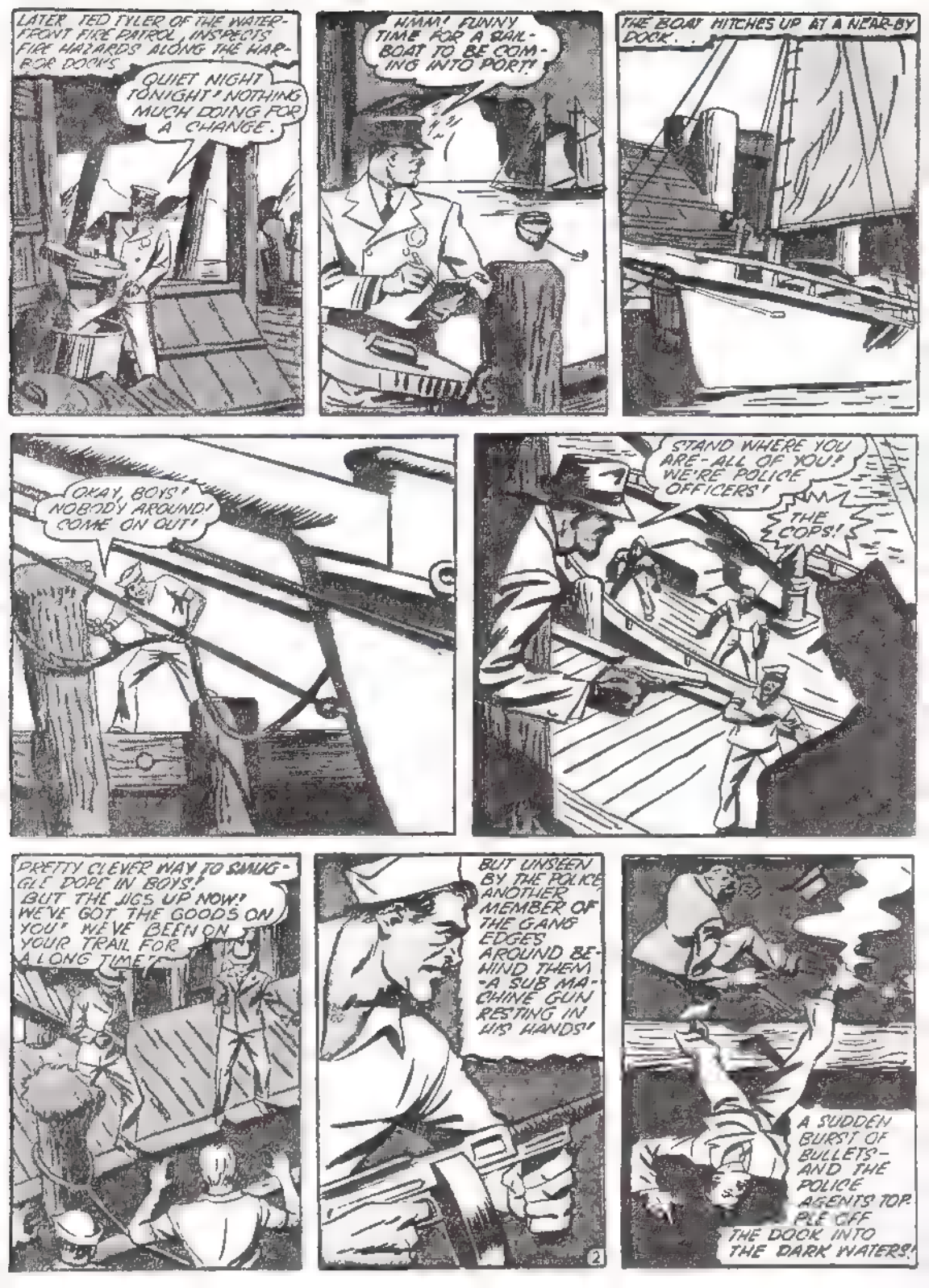
I DON'T GET IT! IT WAS ALL SET! WHAT'S COME OVER THESE STUPID NATIVES?
OWW! ATTA MATTA HE PA!
BANG
THERE'S THE GUY I SLIPPED THE NOTE TO. MAYBE HE
WA-WA-WA
HEY! COME HERE, YOU! DIDN'T YOU DELIVER THAT
SURE I DID! LET GO, WILL YOU?
WHAT'S THAT? OH! SO, IT'S YOU, IS IT?
NOW WAIT A MINUTE! I'M YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICER
SO WHAT?
HEY!
BANG!
SOCK
GOLLY! WHAT NOW?
LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE MADE A HIT, TWERP!
GOGOLA BOLA WALA
AW, LAY OFF, GIRLS, WILL YA? HEY S-SARGE!
SERGEANT BOYLE AND TWERP JOIN CORPORAL COLLINS AND SLAPSIE IN JACKPOT COMICS #1 WHEN THEY SAVE BOYLE'S KID BROTHER FROM HIS NAZI CAPTORS! DON'T MISS IT - 14 FULL PAGES OF SGT. BOYLE LAUGHS THRILLS AND ACTION!

OH OH! THE PLACE WHERE THE HANGMAN IS, S NO HEALTHY SPOT FOR MADAM SATAN!
ANYTIME YOU'RE N A JAM JUST CALL ON JU JU WATSON!
SURE GLAD TO HAVE YOJ IN PEP COMICS FELLA!
ME AN' TWERP ARE SURE PROUD TO BE IN THE SAME BOOK WITH YOU!
WHEE! WE'VE SURE GOT SOME SWELL BUNCH OF GUYS IN PEP NOW!
I MAY BE THE CHAMP, BUT I'D SURE HATE TO TANGLE WITH HIM!
YOU SAID IT!
SCOTLAND YARD COULD USE YOU, YOU KNOW!
KIN I HAVE YER AUTOGRAPH?
WELCOME TO PEP COMICS, HANGMAN!
PEP COMICS
SPECIAL OFFERING FOR PEP COMICS FANS
ON THE BACK COVER OF THIS MAGAZINE NEXT MONTH
A PICTURE OF STEEL STERLING HIS PALS - CLANCY, LOONEY,... AND DORA
SUITABLE FOR FRAMING!
DON'T FAIL TO GET YOUR Copy!

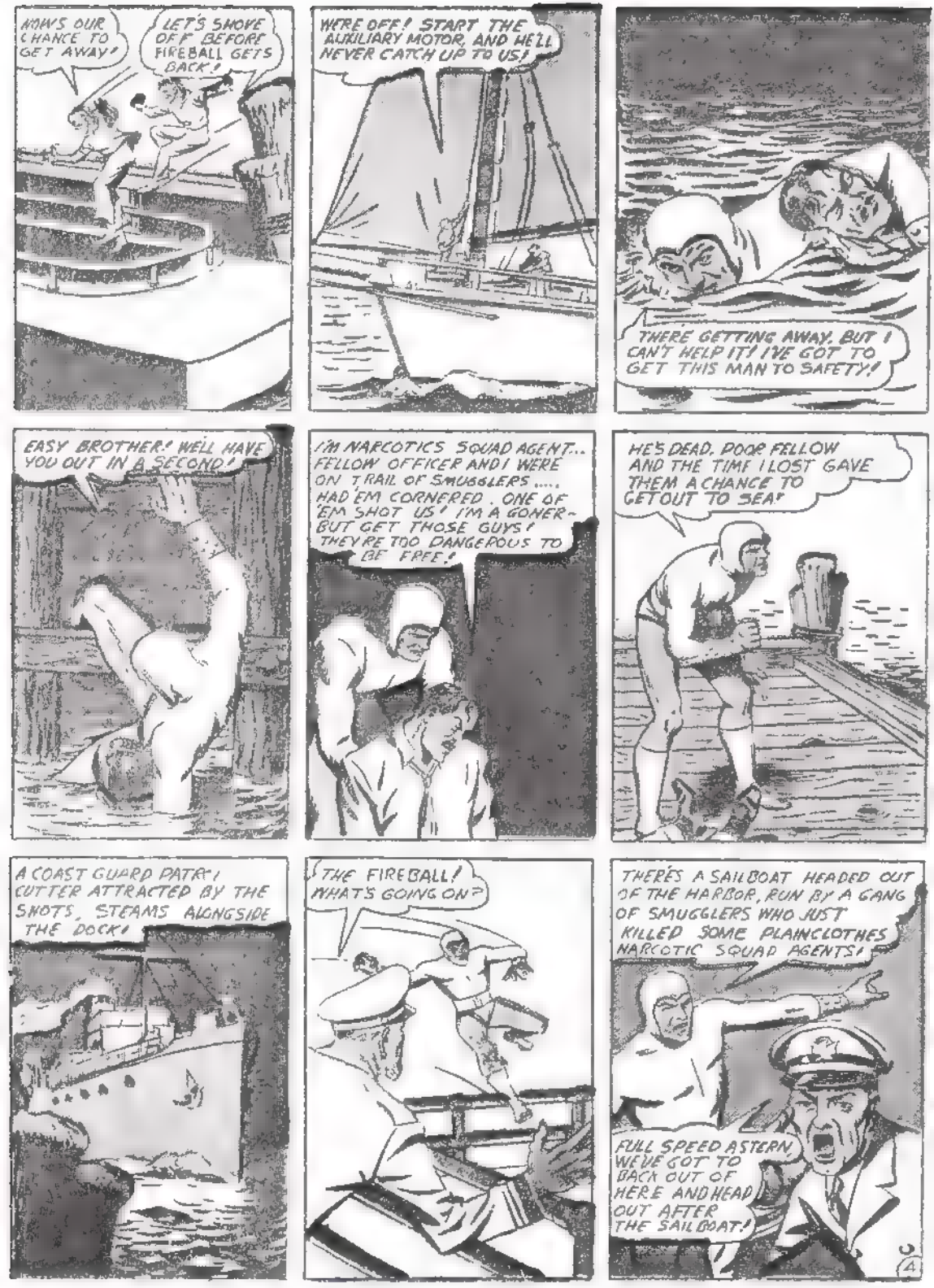
THE FIREBALL
THEY'RE DROPPING THE STUFF, MIKE! LET'S GET IT!
MIDNIGHT. A SAIL BOAT RIDES THE WAVES SEVERAL MILES OUT OF THE HARBOR - AND THEN - A SEAPLANE DROPS A PHOSPHORESCENT OBJECT WHICH GLEAMS BRIGHTLY IN THE FOGGY BLACKNESS OF THE NIGHT.

THERE IT IS- OVER THERE! SWING AROUND TO PORT AND WE'LL HAVE IT!

OKAY! I'VE GOT IT! FULL SPEED AHEAD FOR SHORE!
OKAY, MIKE! WE'LL BE SAFE IN HARBOR IN A FEW MINUTES, WITH THIS WIND!

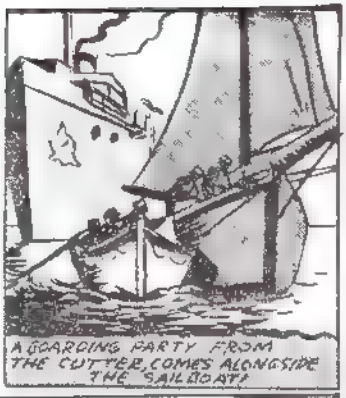

LATER TED TYLER OF THE WATER-FRONT FIRE PATROL, INSPECTS FIRE HAZARDS ALONG THE HARBOR DOCKS
QUIET NIGHT TONIGHT! NOTHING MUCH DOING FOR A CHANGE.
HMMM! FUNNY TIME FOR A RAIL-BOAT TO BE COMING INTO PORT!
THE BOAT HITCHES UP AT A NEAR-BY DOCK...
OKAY, BOYS! NOBODY AROUND! COME ON OUT!
STAND WHERE YOU ARE-ALL OF YOU! WE'RE POLICE OFFICERS!
THE COPS!
PRETTY CLEVER WAY TO SMUGGLE DOPE IN BOYS! BUT THE JIG'S UP NOW! WE'VE GOT THE GOODS ON YOU! WE'VE BEEN ON YOUR TRAIL FOR A LONG TIME!
BUT UNSEEN BY THE POLICE ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GANG EDGES AROUND BEHIND THEM -A SUB MACHINE GUN RESTING IN HIS HANDS!
A SUDDEN BURST OF BULLETS- AND THE POLICE AGENTS TOPPLE OFF THE DOCK INTO THE DARK WATERS!
2

TED TYLER HEARS THE SHOTS AND HURRIEDLY EFFECTS A CHANGE OF CLOTHING!
SOMETHING'S UP! THOSE SHOTS COME FROM THAT SAIL-BOAT!
THE NEXT MOMENT, THE FIREBALL RACES TOWARDS THE SCENE!
THAT GETS RID OF THE COPPERS! THE TIDE WILL TAKE THEM OUT TO SEA!
THE FIREBALL, TOUCHING SOME WASTE MATERIAL, SETS IT AFLAME, AND HURLS IT AT THE THUGS!
HEY! THE FIREBALL! GET HIM!
WATCH THIS!
A LITTLE SLOW ON THE DRAW, BUD!
AND YOU'RE NOT MUCH BETTER!
AND AS FOR YOU, YOU'RE THE WORST ONE OF THE BUNCH! NO FIGHT AT ALL!
ONE OF THE POLICE OFFICERS, ALTHOUGH BADLY WOUNDED, MANAGES TO KEEP AFLOAT!
HELP! HELP!
THE FIREBALL TURNS HIS ATTENTION FROM THE SMUG-GLERS, TO DIVE TO THE RESCUE OF THE WOUNDED MAN!
3


NOW'S OUR CHANCE TO GET AWAY!
LET'S SHOVE OFF BEFORE FIREBALL GETS BACK!
WE'RE OFF! START THE AUXILIARY MOTOR, AND HE'LL NEVER CATCH UP TO US!
THERE GETTING AWAY. BUT I CAN'T HELP IT! I'VE GOT TO GET THIS MAN TO SAFETY!
EASY BROTHER! WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN A SECOND!
I'M NARCOTICS SQUAD AGENT... FELLOW OFFICER AND I WERE ON TRAIL OF SMUGGLERS..... HAD 'EM CORNERED. ONE OF 'EM SHOT US! I'M A GONER- BUT GET THOSE GUYS! THEY'RE TOO DANGEROUS TO BE FREE!
HE'S DEAD. POOR FELLOW AND THE TIME I LOST GAVE THEM A CHANCE TO GET OUT TO SEA!
A COAST GUARD PATROL CUTTER ATTRACTED BY THE SHOTS, STEAMS ALONGSIDE THE DOCK!
THE FIREBALL! WHAT'S GOING ON?
THERE'S A SAILBOAT HEADED OUT OF THE HARBOR, RUN BY A GANG OF SMUGGLERS WHO JUST KILLED SOME PLAINCLOTHES NARCOTIC SQUAD AGENTS!
FULL SPEED ASTERN. WE'VE GOT TO BACK OUT OF HERE AND HEAD OUT AFTER THE SAILBOAT!
C 4

WE SURE GOT RID OF THE FIREBALL, EH, MIKE?
COAST GUARD CUTTER COMING!
GET OUT THOSE BARRELS OF OIL AND DUMP THEM OVERBOARD FROM THE STERN!
FIRE A WARNING OVER THEIR BOW! IF THEY DON'T STOP, WE'LL BLAST THEM OUT OF THE WATER!
HAVING EMPTIED ALL THE BARRELS OF OIL OVERBOARD, ONE OF THE SMUGGLERS TOSSES A FLAMING FAGGOT INTO THE WATER!...
THE NEXT MOMENT THE OIL COVERED WATERS SPRING UP IN FLAMES COMPLETELY ENCIRCLING THE COAST GUARD CUTTER IN THE RAGING INFERNO!
5

WE'VE GOT TO GET THIS FIRE OUT BEFORE THE BOILER EXPLODES!
NEVER MIND! STAND BACK! I'LL PUT OUT THE FLAMES!
NOW FOR A NICE WARM, SATURDAY NIGHT BATH!
SWIMMING THROUGH THE FLAMING WATER, THE FIREBALL EXTINGUISHES THE FLAMES!
SOMETHIN'S GONE COCK-EYED! THE FIRE'S GONE OUT!
THE CUTTER CLOSES IN ON THE SAILBOAT!
THE SMUGGLERS OPEN FIRE AS THE FIREBALL CLIMBS ABOARD
I THOUGHT I GAVE YOU A LESSON THE LAST TIME WE MET! EVIDENTLY, YOU FLUNKED THE TEST!
THIS IS YOUR FINAL EXAM! LET'S SEE YOU GET PAST IT!
THE SMUGGLERS ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE OVER THE SIDE OF THE BOAT, BUT THE FIREBALL PLACES HIS HAND ON THE RAIL, AND FIRE SPRINGS TO LIFE!



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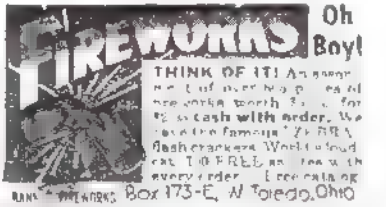
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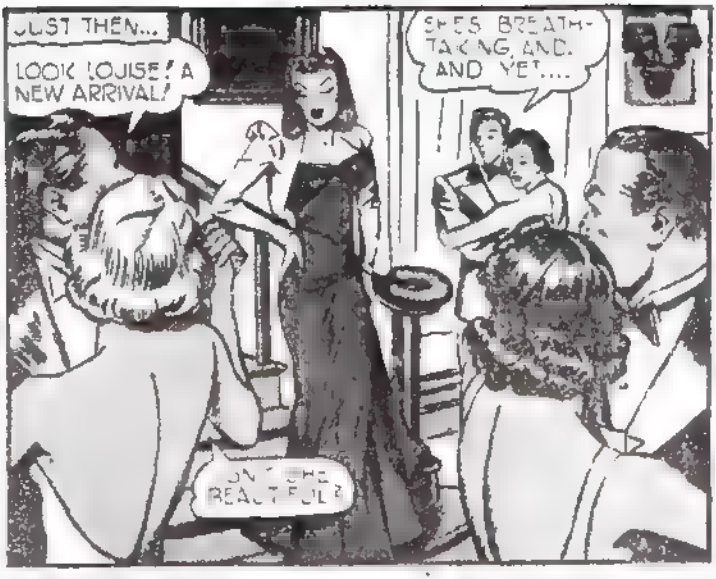
MADAM SATAN
GO FORTH ON EARTH, MY DEAR! THERE IS MUCH TO BE DONE! HA HA HA HA
THE DEVIL SEARCHED FAR AND LONG FOR AN ALLY TO WREAK HAVOC AMONGST MORTALS.....THEN THE BLACK, CORRUPT SOUL OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, A VICTIM OF HER OWN FIENDISH PLAN ON EARTH, LEFT ITS BODILY HABITATION TO STAND BEFORE THE KING OF PURGATORY..... AND HIS SEARCH WAS AT AN END.....
THE DEVIL HAD FOUND HIMSELF A FITTING MATE, AND CALLED HER.....
MADAM SATAN!
GAIETY ARE THE ORDER OF THE NIGHT AT THE PALATIAL HOME OF JOHN JANSSEN, WHOSE SON CARL IS ABOUT TO BE BETROTHED TO ANITA LEWIS.....
A TOAST TO THE COUPLE!
COME ON, CARL! KISS THE GIRL BEFORE I DO!
BRAVO!
MM..MM. AIN'T THAT SOMETHING!

WHAT'S THE MATTER DEAR? WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY SHIVER? ARE YOU COLD?
NO CARL! I GUESS IT'S SILLY OF ME, BUT I SEEM TO HAVE A PREMONITION OF SOMETHING EVIL!


JUST THEN...
LOOK LOUISE! A NEW ARRIVAL!
SHE'S BREATH-TAKING, AND... AND YET....
ISN'T SHE BEAUTIFUL?

HOW DO YOU DO MY DEAR! WE'RE MR AND MRS JANNSEN! ARE YOU ER...ACQUAINTED WITH SOMEBODY HERE?
WHY YES! CARL AND I ARE OLD FRIENDS! AREN'T WE, CARL?

ER..OF COURSE! I SEEM TO HAVE KNOWN YOU FOR A LONG TIME, MISS...MISS
HA HA YOU'VE EVEN FORGOTTEN MY NAME! IT'S IOLA! COME, LETS DANCE!

YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL IOLA THAT IS, ER, I MEAN YOU DANCE BEAUTIFULLY!
WE MUST SEE MORE OF EACH OTHER!

ER, ANITA IOLA IS TIRED AND I'VE OFFERED TO ESCORT HER HOME! DO YOU MIND?
BUT CARL YOU'VE PROMISED ANITA!
OH THAT'S ALL RIGHT, MR JANNSEN YOU GO RIGHT AHEAD, CARL DEAR!

CARL JANNSEN, NOW COMPLETELY IN THE HOLD OF THE CREATURE FROM THE NETHERWORLD, BEGINS AN ORGY AND EXPENSIVE MERRYMAKING

'OLA! I'M MAD ABOUT YO!! WHY DO YOU HOLD ME OFF? MARRY ME TONIGHT, RIGHT NOW!
BAH! YOU LOVE ME YOU SAY! WELL THEN PROVE IT!
WHAT HAVE YOU GIVEN ME?..A FEW BAUBLES SOME CHAMPAGNE! SHOWER ME WITH REAL GIFTS!..EXPENSIVE ONES...THEN, PERHAPS..
BUT I'VE ALREADY BEGGED AND BORROWED EVERY CENT I COULD! WHERE AM I TO GET MORE MONEY?
I DON'T CARE! STEAL, IF YOU MUST BUT GET IT, OR WE'RE THROUGH!
LATER, A SHADOWY FIGURE SLINKS INTO THE DARKENED LIBRARY OF THE JANNSEN HOME AND MAKES FOR THE WALL SAFE!
SUDDENLY THE LIGHTS ARE SWITCHED ON....
CARL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DAD!
THERE IS NOTHING IN THERE FOR YOU TO STEAL! I'M NEARLY BANKRUPT COVERING THE BAD CHECKS YOU'VE ISSUED!
I MUST HAVE MORE MONEY! I MUST!
IF YOU CAN'T GIVE IT TO ME, I KNOW HOW TO GET IT! GIVE ME THAT GUN!
CARL! WHAT ARE YOU' DOING?
STOP! YOU YOUNG FOOL!
OUT OF MY WAY!
EEEE! CARL! YOUR OWN FATHER!
WHAM

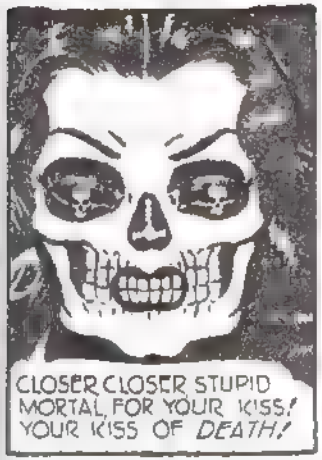
YOU TOO, ANITA! DON'T TRY TO STOP ME!
HE'S GONE MAD! CARL! COME BACK!
MR. JANNSEN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
Y...YES DEAR! GO AFTER HIM! STOP HIM! HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT HE'S DOING!
CRAZED BY THE FIENDISH WILES OF MADAM SATAN, CARL STALKS THE DARKENED STREETS WITH A SINGLE GRIM THOUGHT FIXED IN HIS BRAIN.....TO GET MONEY!
KEEP THE CHANGE, CABBIE!
MONEY! LOADS OF IT! I'LL WAIT TILL THE CAB DRIVER GOES AWAY, AND THEN...
GREAT GOD! HE'S GOING TO SHOOT THAT MAN!
YOU CAN'T DO IT, CARL! I WON'T LET YOU!
LET GO MY HAND, YOU LITTLE FOOL!
THE GUN ACCIDENTALLY GOES OFF...
OOOOo
WHAT HAVE I DONE? I MUST HAVE BEEN INSANE! ANITA!
HELP POLICE!
ANITA! SPEAK TO ME!

A GIRL'S BEEN SHOT! I THINK IT WAS THAT FELLOW OVER THERE WHO SHOT HER!
YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS YOUNG FELLOW!
N..NO, OFFICER! MY OWN GUN ACCIDENTALLY WENT OFF! HE'S MY FIANCE!
ANITA IS RUSHED TO A HOSPITAL AND THE BULLET IS IMMEDIATELY PROBED FOR.
DOCTOR!.. H. HOW IS SHE? WILL SHE LIVE?
HARD TO SAY WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN, BUT THE REST IS UP TO HER! IT'S LARGELY A QUESTION OF HER WILL POWER FROM NOW ON!
SCRE-EEE-CH
SHE KILLED MY SWEETHEART, JUST AS SURELY AS THOUGH SHE HAD PULLED THE TRIGGER! SHE'LL PAY FOR THAT... WITH HER OWN ACCURSED LIFE!
IOLA! SHE'S TO BLAME FOR THIS! HOW COULD I HAVE GIVEN UP SO PURE AND SWEET A GIRL FOR THAT...THAT.... BUT I KNOW WHAT TO DO NOW!
WHILE ANITA TOSSING FEVERISHLY ON THE VERGE OF DEATH IS VISITED BY A HORRIBLE VISION!
CARL! THAT WOMAN!.. DEATH.. DEATH!
CARL!..NO! SHE'S DEATH! STAY AWAY FROM HER!
DRIVEN BY A GREAT POWER ANITA STAGGERS FROM HER BED...
I MUST GO TO HIM!... MUST SAVE HIM FROM HER!

HELLO, CARL DEAR! BACK SO SOON?

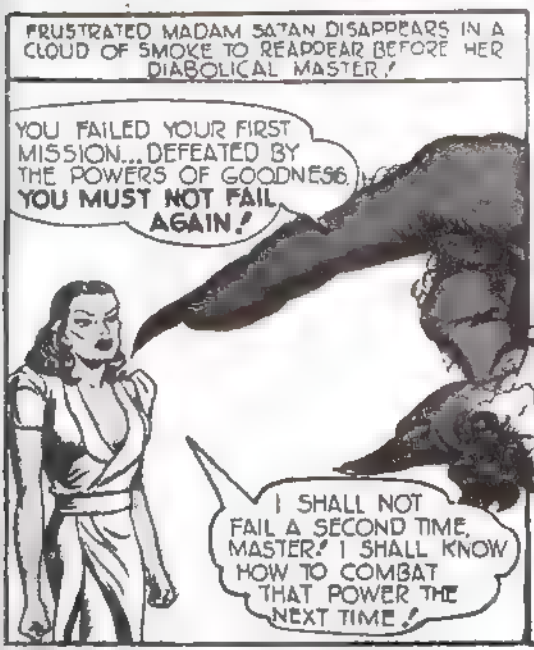
YES I'VE COME BACK TO KILL YOU! YOU..YOU.. SHE DEVIL!
HA,HA! A SHE-DEVIL HAS WILES, CARL DEAR! COME TO ME, CARL! COME TO ME, I SAY!

NOW, KISS ME! I COMMAND YOU!
LAVON HELP ME! THOSE EYES...I CAN'T RESIST HER!

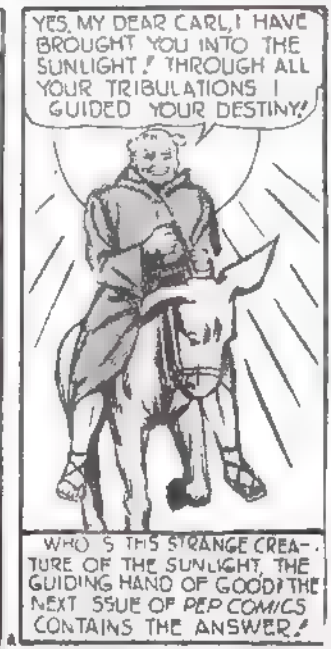

CLOSER CLOSER STUPID MORTAL, FOR YOUR KISS! YOUR KISS OF DEATH!

CARL! DARLING! DON'T KISS THAT THING!

ANITA! YOU'RE ALIVE! OH, DEAREST! AND I THOUGHT I'D LOST YOU!
COME BACK! COME BACK TO ME, I TELL YOU!
SHE...SHE'S DEATH, CARL! IT CAME TO ME IN A DREAM! OOoo I'M GOING TO FAINT!


FRUSTRATED MADAM SATAN DISAPPEARS IN A CLOUD OF SMOKE TO REAPPEAR BEFORE HER DIABOLICAL MASTER!
YOU FAILED YOUR FIRST MISSION...DEFEATED BY THE POWERS OF GOODNESS. YOU MUST NOT FAIL AGAIN!
I SHALL NOT FAIL A SECOND TIME, MASTER! I SHALL KNOW HOW TO COMBAT THAT POWER THE NEXT TIME!

WHILE BACK ON EARTH THE SUN IS RISING..
HOW BEAUTIFUL ITS LIGHT S!..AND HOW CLEARLY I CAN SEE THINGS NOW! HOW COULD I EVER HAVE FORSAKEN MY SWEET MY GOOD ANITA FOR THAT..THAT THING!


YES, MY DEAR CARL, I HAVE BROUGHT YOU INTO THE SUNLIGHT! THROUGH ALL YOUR TRIBULATIONS I GUIDED YOUR DESTINY!
WHO'S THIS STRANGE CREATURE OF THE SUNLIGHT, THE GUIDING HAND OF GOOD? THE NEXT ISSUE OF PEP COMICS CONTAINS THE ANSWER!

KAYO WARD

THE WORLD'S HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION IS ABOUT TO LOSE A DECISION TO DAN CUPID, AS THE PREACHER IS ABOUT TO MARRY HIM TO CONNIE HODGES. THEN, JUST BEFORE THEY ARE ABOUT TO BE PRONOUNCED MAN AND WIFE....

STOP! STOP! FIRE! FIRE!

RUN FOR YOUR LIVES, EVERY BODY! THE BOILER'S ABOUT TO EXPLODE!

BOOM

OVERCOME BY THE SMOKE AND EXCITEMENT CONNIE FAINTS!

CE CONNIE OUTTA 'ERE!

SHE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, PUNCHY! SHE JUST FAINTED!!
HEY KAYO WHERE'S LEW? I DON'T SEE HIM COME OUTTA THE CHURCH!
GOSH HE MUST STILL BE IN THERE, TRAPPED IN THE FLAMES! I GOT TO GET HIM, PUNCHY!
STAND BACK YOU FOOL! IT'S SUICIDE TO GO IN THERE!!
GET OUTTA MY WAY!!
KAYO SEES HIS MANAGER PINNED BENEATH THE DEBRIS!!
KAYO!!-HELP!
EASY LEW! I'LL GET YOU OUTTA HERE!!
THE CHURCH IS A VERITABLE INFERNO NOW..AND THE FLAMES LICK HUNGRILY ABOUT THEM!
I..I..BETTER PUT MY JACKET AROUND LEW!!
GEE-I-I'M ROASTING!! ---JUST A LITTLE WAY TO GO-GOTTA MAKE IT!!
KAYO STAGGERS OUT, THEN COLLAPSES!
HOLY CATS! THE CHAMPS BURNED SOMETHIN FIERCE! GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL, QUICK!!
CLANG
CLANG
LATER-AT THE HOSPITAL
DOCTOR! HOW--HOW IS HE?
IT'S HIS FACE THAT SUFFERED MOST MISS HODGES! I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE CAN DO! TIME WILL TELL!
12

H HELLO CONNIE!! YOU ALL RIGHT?
OH MY POOR BRAVE DARLING! HURRY AND GET WELL, SO WE CAN GET MARRIED!!
WEEKS LATER
MY FACE! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIX IT, AND CONNIE ONLY WANTS TO GO AHEAD WITH THE WEDDING BECAUSE SHE FEELS SORRY FOR ME! BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET HER!!
LATER
GOOD GRIEF! MR WARD'S GONE!!
CALLING ALL CARS. BE ON LOOKOUT FOR KAYO WARD! HE'S STILL DANGEROUSLY ILL! BRING HIM BACK TO THE HOSPITAL!!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT KAYO IS HOPPING ON A FREIGHT TRAIN LEAVING THE CITY!!
GEE I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ANYBODY IN THE CAR!!
THAT'S OKAY, PALLY PLENTY OF ROOM HERE. MY NAME'S RIP!_WHAT'S YOURS?(COUGH-CO_GH)
ER_BILL ...S' PLAIN BILL!
WELL, LET'S FLOP FOR THE NIGHT! (COUGH! COUGH!) GEE IT'S COLD! (COUGH!!)
THAT'S A BAD COUGH YOU GOT! HERE, TAKE MY JACKET!!
LATER-THE TRAIN MAKES A STOP FOR WATER, AND-
CMON SLUG! LET'S HOP INTO THIS CAR!!
OKAY DUSTY!
HSST, SLUG! LOOK! SOMEBODY ELSE IN THE CAR!!
SNORE
3

THIS GUY LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT SOME MONEY! I'LL KNOCK HIM COLD AND ROLL 'IM!
GOOD IDEA!
JUST THEN RIP WAKES UP!!
HEY! THAT GUY IS GONNA SOCK BILL!
NO YOU DON'T! BILL!! WAKE UP QUICK!!
KAYO AWAKENS IN TIME TO SEE ONE OF THE TRAMPS LUNGE AT HIM!!
TRY TO HIT A SLEEPING MAN, WILL YA
KAYO NOW TURNS TO THE OTHER WHO TRIES TO ATTACK FROM BEHIND
AS FOR YOU '
YOU'RE GOIN' TO JOIN YER FRIEND!
GEE' HE SOCKS LIKE A CHAMP!!
POW!
THANKS FOR WAKIN' ME IN TIME, RIP! THEY MIGHT HAVE KILLED ME!!
THINK NUTHIN' OF IT, PALLY! (COUGH) YOU GIMME YER COAT, DIDN'T YOU! COUGH — COUGH-COUGH!!
THAT'S A BAD COUGH!! WE'RE GETTING OFF AT THE NEXT STOP AND I'M TAKIN' YA' TO A DOCTOR
GEE' YOU'RE A RIGHT GUY, B

EASY BILL! YGOTTA KNOW HOW TO JUMP OFF THESE MOVING FREIGHTS!!
IM ALI RIGHT RIP' C'MON!!
ER-HELLO DOCTOR! I'D LIKE YOUSE TO LOOK AT MY FRIEND, HERE!
COME RIGHT IN!
COUGH COUGH
THE DOCTOR EXAMINES RIP'S LUNGS
VERY BAD! I'M AFRAID YOU'RE BORDERING ON TUBERCULOSIS- YOU OUGHT TO BE IN A HOSPITAL!!
THAT LEAVES ME OUT!--HOSPITALS MEAN MONEY AND THAT'S SOMETHIN' I HAVEN'T GOT!
WAIT! ...IS THERE A FIGHT PROMOTER IN THIS TOWN, DOC?
HEY YES! ...ON MAIN STREET!
ALL R GHT! I'LL GET SOME MONEY FOR YOU RIP!
WELL, HERE IT IS! HOPE THEY DON'T RECOGNIZE ME!! --BUT I GOTTA TAKE THE CHANCE!!
HMM M, SO YOU WANT A MATCH, NOTHIN' DOIN! I WOULDN'T PUT YOU IN A RING WITH THEM SCARS ON YOUR FACE! YOU'D BLEED LIKE A PIG!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME!
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT --I'LL FIGHT FOR NOTHIN' IF I DON'T WIN!!
WELL, OKAY!!
AND I ONLY GOT ONE SPOT FOR YOU--WITH THE LOCAL CHAMP -HIS OPPONENT TOOK A RUN OUT!! STILL WILLIN'
IT'S A DEAL!!
THE FIGHT IS ABOUT TO START!!
REMEMBER! BREAK CLEAN!
WHAT'RE YA DOIN' WIT DAT FACE, YA BUM!. BREAKIN' IT IN FOR A HALLOWEEN PARTY??

KNOCK 'AT GUY KICKIN'?
DON'T STALL OPEN THEM SCARS ON HIS FACE!
DON'T WORRY I WILL!
THERE'S THE BELL- BOTH COME RUSHING TO THE CENTER OF THE RING AND--
POW!
KAYO GOES AFTER HIS OPPONENT IN EARNEST, INTENT ON A QUICK KNOCK-OUT BECAUSE OF HIS POOR CONDITION!
KAYO IS TOO EAGER! HIS OPPONENT COMES THROUGH HIS GUARD WITH A SLASHING RIGHT TO THE FACE!!
THE BLOOD POURS FROM HIS REOPENED WOUNDS IN A STREAM!
KNOCK THE BUM OUT!
BACK TO YOUR CORNER!
KAYO COMES OFF THE CANVAS WITH A RUSH, THROWS A PULVERIZING LEFT AND THE FIGHT IS OVER--
POW
LATER
HERE Y 3F ARE RIP! EN UGH MONEY FOR THE HOSPITAL!
GEE, BILL! YER FACE!! GOSH YA SHOULDN'T A' DONE IT!!
I'LL NEVER FORGET THIS PAL! HONEST!
DON'T MENTION IT, RIP! G'YE! N'GOOD LUCK!
FATE HAS DEALT KAYO WARD A CRUEL BLOW_ONE DAY A CHAMPION, WEALTHY, A BEAUTIFUL SWEETHEART,_THE NEXT A WANDERING HOBO--- BUT A CHAMP NEVER QUITS. AND YOU WON'T WANT TO QUIT READING THE NEXT KAYO WARD ADVENTURE-- BE SEEING YOU!!

BENTLEY of SCOTLAND YARD

AND THE CASE OF....
THE PARACHUTE KILLER

SIR ARCHIBALD WAVERLEY, ONE OF ENGLANDS GENERALS, HAS OBTAINED SPECIAL LEAVE TO RETURN HOME - AT THE MOMENT, HE IS SEATED IN HIS LIBRARY, ABOUT TO SUMMON HIS FAMILY!

WHILE IN SCOTLAND YARD

WE HAVE NEW DUTIES, BENTLEY - ROUNDING UP GERMAN PARA - CHUTE TROOPS. YOU MIGHT RUN DOWN TO GENERAL WAVERLEY'S PLACE AND SORT OF KEEP AN EYE ON HIM!

RIGHT O CHIEF!

JUST AS BENTLEY IS ON HIS WAY TO THE WAVERLEY ESTATE, A STORMY SCENE IS BEING ENACTED THERE BETWEEN SIR ARCHIBALD AND ROGER KIMBERLEY, HIS DAUGHTER'S FIANCEE!

SEE HERE, LINDA! I CAME HOME ESPECIALLY TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR MARRIAGE TO ROGER!

FATHER, PLEASE! WE LOVE EACH OTHER!

YES, GENERAL!

I'M CONVINCED THAT YOU'RE A FORTUNE-HUNTER KIMBERLEY, AND I WON'T HAVE THIS MARRIAGE BECAUSE..

FATHER! LOOK OUT!

OOO!

THE SHOT CAME THRU THIS WINDOW! B BUT THE KILLER'S DISAPPEARED!
SIR! WHAT HAPPENED?
WE HEARD A SHOT!
THERE, THERE! CHIN UP, SWEET-HEART!
(SOB, SOB) FATHER'S DEAD!
RRRING!
SOMRONE'S AT THE DOOR! SEE WHO IT IS, JARVIS!
YES, SIR!
I'M BENTLEY OF SCOTLAND YARD IS ANYTHING WRONG? I HEARD A SHOT!
SCOT-LAND YARD! 'OW FORTUNATE SOMETHING IS VERY WRONG! COME IN, SIR!
JOVE! HE'S DEAD! THE CHIEF'S HUNCH WAS RIGHT!
I'M REGINALD WAVERLEY! THIS IS MY BROTHER JOHN, AND SISTER LINDA, BENTLEY!
AND I'M ROGER KIMBERLEY, LINDA'S FIANCE! WHO DO YOU THINK DID THIS?
WELL, GERMAN PARACHUTE TROOPS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THIS VICINITY SIR ARCHIBALD WAS A VERY IMPORTANT MAN!
FIRST, I'D BETTER STRAIGHTEN SIR ARCHIBALD IN HIS CHAIR BEFORE HE SLUMPS TO THE FLOOR!
BENTLEY! THAT GUN AGAIN! LOOK OUT!

OOOF!

LINDA WARNED ME JUST IN TIME! AS IT WAS, THAT BULLET WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!

BENTLEY, DID YOU SEE HIM?
NO, BUT HERE'S SOMETHING CURIOUS!

THESE TRACKS WERE MADE BY A SOLDIER'S HOB-NAILED BOOTS, ALL RIGHT, BUT NOTICE HOW THEY'VE HARDENED - AS THOUGH THEY WERE FORMED SOME TIME AGO!

ARE THERE ANY MILITARY BOOTS IN THE HOUSE MISS WAVERLEY?
ONLY FATHER'S! AND THEY'RE STILL ON HIS FEET! WHY?

OH, JUST CURIOUS! YOU'VE ALL HAD A HARD DAY AND IT'S LATE. I SUGGEST YOU RETIRE. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THINGS!
SPLENDID IDEA!

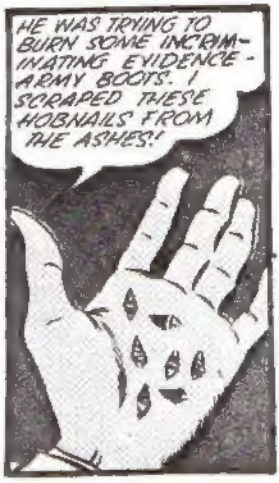
WELL, THEY'RE ALL IN THEIR ROOMS NOW I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THE WINDOW WHERE THAT HAND APPEARED!

BOTH TIMES, IT CAME RIGHT FROM THIS CORNER, SO THAT THE KILLER WOULD HAVE HAD TO APPROACH FROM THE SOUTH! YET THOSE TRACKS COME FROM THE NORTH IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION!

WHAT'S THAT NOISE COMING FROM THE CELLAR!
IT'S PITCH DARK DOWN HERE! SAY THAT FURNACE SHOULDN'T BE GOING NOW!
A NEW FIRE HAS JUST BEEN STARTED! SOMEBODY'S TRYING TO BURN SOMETHING! I'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK INSIDE!
JUST AS I THOUGHT!
BONG
UGH!
SUDDENLY!
LATER
OOO! WHAT HIT ME?
STEADY OLD MAN!
THE MONKEY WRENCH MUST HAVE FALLEN OFF THE FURNACE AND CONKED YOU!
MAYBE! BUT HOW DO YOU HAPPEN TO BE HERE JOHN?
WHY I WAS RAIDING THE ICE-BOX FOR A SNACK! I HEARD A DISTURBANCE DOWN HERE AND CAME TO HAVE A LOOK!
HMM WELL, LET'S GO UPSTAIRS!
I'VE DISCOVERED SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT. WILL YOU PLEASE SUMMON THE REST OF THE HOUSEHOLD DOWN HERE AT ONCE?
WHY, CERTAINLY!

BUT WHO? LINDA AND MYSELF ARE IN THE CLEAR, OF COURSE. WE WERE STANDING RIGHT BY HIM, JUST AS YOU WERE, WHEN THAT HAND CAME THROUGH THE WINDOW!

AND REGINALD AND MYSELF WERE ON THE VERANDAH HAVING A SPOT OF TEA! JARVIS CAN TESTIFY TO THAT!
YES, SIR! THAT I CAN, SIR! I WAS SERVING THEM!



THE MURDERER WAS SCARED BECAUSE I'D NOTICE THOSE TRACKS! AND HE WANTED TO GET RID OF THOSE INCRIMINATING BOOTS BEFORE I FOUND THEM!

BENTLEY KNOWS THE SECRET OF THE MURDERER OF SIR ARCHIBALD WAVERLEY. **DO YOU?**

ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IS THE MURDERER OF SIR ARCHIBALD. CHECK YOUR CHOICE. THEN READ BENTLEY'S SOLUTION ON THE NEXT PAGE!

LINDA WAVERLEY
ROGER KIMBERLEY
JOHN WAVERLEY
REGINALD WAVERLEY
JARVIS THE BUTLER

NOW TURN TO THE NEXT PAGE.

THANK YOU, BUT I PREFER TO STAND! SUPPOSE YOU SIT DOWN!
ER.. I'D RATHER NOT!

NO, OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T BECAUSE YOU KNOW IT WOULD MEAN YOUR DEATH.. AS IT DID SIR ARCHIBALDS! YOU ARE THE MURDERER, ROGER KIMBERLEY
WH.. WHO YOU'RE CRAZY!

SO I'M CRAZY, AM I?

NOT HALF AS CRAZY AS YOU WERE - TO THINK YOU COULD GET AWAY WITH IT!
OOPS!

NO YOU DON'T, YOU FILTHY KILLER!
LET ME GO!

NOW STAND BACK, EVERY-BODY, AND I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT WAS DONE. KIMBERLEY KNEW THAT THIS WAS SIR ARCHIBALD'S FAVORITE CHAIR, SO HE CLEVERLY BUILT A SPRING IN IT'S BACK...

THEN WHEN THERE IS ANY PRESSURE AGAINST IT, AN ARTI-FICIAL HAND HIDDEN BEHIND THE WINDOW DRAPE IS RELEASED - LIKE THIS!

YOU SEE, I TRICKED KIMBERLEY INTO EXPOSING HIMSELF. I KNEW HOW IT HAD BEEN DONE, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHO DID IT!
FATHER WAS RIGHT ABOUT ROGER AFTER ALL. HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?

ALL RIGHT, THE JIG'S UP! MIGHT AS WELL TELL WHY I KILLED HIM. HE HAD ME INVESTIGATED AND FOUND OUT THAT I'D BEEN MARRIED A COUPLE OF TIMES BEFORE - FOR MONEY. IF HE TOLD LINDA, SHE WOULD NEVER HAVE MARRIED ME!
ANOTHER BAFFLING AND WEIRD BENTLEY MYSTERY IN NEXT PEP COMICS - DEATH BY THE MUMMY'S HAND!